



THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION OF CEYLON.

Vol. I.]

APRIL, 1913.

[No. 2



THE LABOUR COMMISSIONER'S REPORT.

The bulk of the present number of the *Planting Gazette* is occupied by the Ceylon Labour Commissioner's Report for 1912, and the length and importance of this has of necessity excluded other matter.

The Report is most interesting and contains a great deal of very concentrated information which is bound to prove of good service to all estates which contribute to the scheme. In addition to the crowded facts and figures Mr. Nicholson reveals in his writing a power of imagination which has not predominated in previous reports from Trichinopoly. And after all the power to conceive ideas is the indispensable ingredient among those which go to make an organizer. We congratulate Mr. Nicholson on his first report.

And now for detail. Under the sub-heading of "Professional Recruiter" in the preliminary review it is noted how the reduction of the rate payable on the A. Form has served to check the professional. But we want to checkmate him, and this can be done by a still further reduction. By a simple resolution, by a mere letter of three lines and a signature, the Coast Agency Committee limited the powers of the Labour Commissioner in the direction of cashing A. Forms to the honouring of such forms, PROVIDED THEY DO NOT EXCEED Rs. 15-00 PER HEAD. This saved the Planting Industry four and a half lacs of Rupees, without costing the coolie a penny. The figures are plain to see for any who cares to check them. In 1911 72,549 coolies passed through the various agencies of the Commission to Ceylon at a cost on the average of Rs. 20-00 per head: this with an unlimited A. Form. In 1912, 93,925 coolies passed through and cost Rs. 15-00 per head (the nearest rupee is quoted in each case.) The saving is thus demonstrably about Rs. 470,000. The subscriptions to the Coast Agency for 1912 amounted to a little over

Rs. 157,000, so that by this one act alone Ceylon saved three times what it spends on the Labour Commission. These are facts and are well worth thinking over. But the Commissioner suggests that the rate should be still further reduced, and undoubtedly he is right. It ought to be reduced and reduced again until a point is reached where it appears to hamper legitimate recruiting: it should then be raised one rupee, to allow a safe margin, and kept there. These things must be looked at a whole and not from the standpoint of the lucky individual.

Apart from mere bread and butter how very interesting this question of labour is! All over the world the same problem has arisen and is being tried out by one method or another. In some places by a violence of socialism almost reaching anarchy, in others by bitter and prolonged strikes. We are fortunate in that our struggle has not yet led to violence or bitterness. We are lucky in having had time and a breathing space during which to watch and learn and profit by the errors of others. But the time for improvement of our conditions has come.

Every S. D. knows that it has come. Rates of wage have got to go up, so that the labourer can take more interest in his employ, and share in some degree the prosperity of his employer. That this increase is bound to come is shown by the fact that rates are already rising, as everyone in the Low-country knows. But there is another piece of evidence which is not so well-known, but is perhaps more vital. Every week there issues from the Government Press in Madras a supplement to the Fort St. George Gazette, in which is given the current prices of the grains on which the coolie population lives; rice, ragi, cholam, and cumbu. The list shews the price in each district of the Presidency of these grains for the following terms, viz., this week, last week, and the average for the last fifteen years. There are thirty districts quoted from about half of which we draw coolies. Before the writer there lies the report for the week ending the 15th March, 1913, in which it appears that the rainfall is well above the average for the last forty years. The current prices are not therefore the result of adverse weather, but of other conditions, and the year we live in is an average good one.

But of the hundred and twenty comparisons available, to wit four grain quotations for each of thirty districts

(actually rather less than 120, as figures are not available in each case for the 15 years average), there is but one single instance in which any one of these grains in any districts has not increased in price, and that is for "cumbu" in Tinnivelly, where it has altered from 13.3 measures to the rupee to 13.4 measures to the rupee. In many cases the increase is enormous, and it averages on the whole about 30%. In response to this rise in his living expenses the cost of the coolie labourer in South India has gone up, and we are in competition with Indian Planters in the Tamil districts. On the whole it seems probable that this rise in food prices will continue. Every coolie who is employed other than in growing or transporting foodstuffs reduces the proportion that food producers bear to consumers of the same grade of food. If all the Tamil race was engaged in growing grain then they would have plenty, though they would not be so wealthy as they now are. If 20% of the Tamils are employed in growing products which they do not themselves use appreciably, such as tea and rubber, and which do not in any degree take the place of grain food in the world, then the remaining part of the Tamil population which grows grain must suffer from the competition of those who only eat grain. This, in various forms, is what is happening everywhere in the world and causing so much unrest. If this has been made clear it will follow that our own interests must force us to improve the position of the labourer with whose prosperity our own is so indissolubly linked.

This was begun as a review of Mr. Nicholson's report, but perhaps it is as well that the pen has wandered into other adjacent fields, for now all those who wish to know about the report will be compelled to read it. They will profit thereby much more than from a review, but we may have to return to its pages in our next number.

If any proof is wanted of the fact that on the planting enterprise depends the whole welfare of this Colony, it is to be found in almost every one of the 37 pages of the "Review of the Administration of Ceylon, 1907-1913" by H. E. Sir Henry McCallum."

No Governor—however energetic—however solicitous for the welfare of the people over whom he rules—can achieve much towards their material or moral advancement unless he has at his command an abundant revenue, and Sir Henry McCallum has been singularly fortunate in this respect, the revenue for the last financial year being £3,149,748. In the 4 years 1907-1911 the annual value of our trade rose from 2,494 lacs to 3,375 lacs, an increase of 35 per cent. The value of exports has risen since 1907 by Rs. 53,000,000; nearly half of which is attributed to the growth of the rubber industry.

On the subject of Motor-Traction the Governor reminds us that, in his five-year Programme, a sum of no less than "Rs. 1,800,000" was set aside for the purpose of supplying motor-traction as an adjunct to the Railway System," and reading between the lines, we can find much that enables us to endorse Mr. William Sinclair's indictment of the Public Works Department, in his speech at the Annual General Meeting of the Planters' Association. It is lamentable that the efforts, not only of the public

but even of the Governor himself, should be thwarted by the sublime indifference of this Department to the public needs.

In connection with Public Works we may perhaps be permitted to refer back to the paragraph on "Financial Position" where we read:—"It must be admitted, indeed, that the spending capacity of some of the Departments has been unable to keep pace with the funds placed at their disposal." We believe that in many instances this is due primarily to the want of coolie labour, and we wish Sir Henry McCallum had definitely stated this. Had such a statement been put on record it would have been of much use to us, when we bring before His Excellency's successor our request that Government, as the largest employer of immigrant labour, must in justice to itself and well as to the Planting Community bear some part of the expense of recruiting labour at the Coast.

The establishment of a proper Agricultural Department is discussed at length, and we are promised shortly "Mr. Lyne's lucid and practical proposals" which are to be submitted to the Secretary of State as soon as possible.

Want of space does not allow us to say more than that on the subject of Railways—both extensions and improvements to the existing lines—much progress is recorded, and this is also the case in practically every Government Department.

On the vexed question of Excise, we, at present prefer to say but little. Admittedly we are now in a period of transition (some of the regulations do not even come into force until July 1st of this year) and time and experience alone can show what modifications are necessary. In the meantime we hope and believe that Sir Henry McCallum initiated a reform, which will, if carried out with energy and sympathy by his successors, overshadow every other enactment of an administration which will long be remembered for its vigorous policy of re-organization and advancement in every direction, to the benefit of every class, caste and creed in this Colony.

In conclusion, planters individually have to thank Sir Henry McCallum for his revision of the Game Laws and their stricter enforcement and "the Planters' Association for the following generous appreciation of such services as it was able to render him:—

"I was fortunate in obtaining, in addition to the valued counsels of my official advisers, the cordial co-operation of the Central Planters' Association, and in this my last address to you, I desire to give public expression of my thanks for the assistance so readily given."

The Editor would like to acknowledge in this the second number of the *Planting Gazette*, the favourable reception which has been accorded to the new paper. But it must be remembered that there is no staff trained in the collection of "Copy," and the P. G. is very largely dependent upon its readers to supply material, in particular it is hoped that the Hon. Secretaries of District Planters' Associations will contribute summaries of the proceedings of their meetings and will send for publication any other items of district news, which might be of interest to planters.

REPORT ON THE RAGAMA COOLY SEGREGATION CAMP.

VISITED MARCH 12TH, 1913, BY F. H. LAYARD AND
G. C. BLISS.

1. The old Camp, which was vacated at the time of the cholera outbreak — May, 1911, — has been rebuilt and put into thorough good order. It has been in occupation since the 1st of this month.

2. There are eleven sections fenced off from each other, and each complete in itself, containing a corrugated iron shed with cement floor, a cooking shed, a latrine and a water supply.

3. Each of these sections can safely accommodate 180 coolies and when absolutely necessary might have 200, so the total accommodation is at the outside 2,200.

4. The temporary Camp, in use since May, 1911, is closed for the present, except the four permanent sheds at one time in use as a pauper hospital.

5. A case of cholera had occurred and death resulted the day before our visit. The 150 contacts had at once been removed to the four sheds, referred to in the preceding paragraph, to be segregated there for the necessary period. (No further case has been reported.) Reference is made to this isolated case of cholera only, to show how very thoroughly proper precautions are now being taken compared with past methods.

6. Necessary repairs and rebuilding of the temporary camp are now in hand and the work is going on fast. In a few weeks there will be accommodation for about another 2,000, and we think it may safely be concluded that there will not again occur dangerous overcrowding.

7. Eight small contact and isolation sections are also being put in good order with brick and cement

floors, in the same style as the other sheds, and with this new flooring and the consequent possibility of systematic washing and disinfecting, the flea nuisance should cease and the fly danger be greatly minimised.

8. We also visited the hospital about $\frac{1}{2}$ a mile from the old camp, and the general arrangements, obvious cleanliness, and apparent preparedness call for complete commendation.

9. COMPLAINTS.—The only matter brought to our notice was that some bad—or certainly not good—dried fish had been issued. The Superintendent and his assistant undertook to have a fresh issue made at once.

10. LATRINES.—We inspected several of these, and though it was fairly early in the morning, and our visit was unexpected, we were impressed by the much more thorough manner in which the latrine staff are being worked and controlled than in the past. The use of disinfectants was thoroughly apparent in most of the sections visited.

11. Some of the sections have a number of large and shady trees in them, and it was obvious how much these are appreciated by coolies cooped up in section camps for 5 days. It appealed to us strongly that fast growing leafy trees should be planted about the camps, and we recommend that the committee should take action in the matter.

12. As to the issue of new cloths to the coolies—which suggestion the Committee approved at the January meeting—the Superintendent informed us that he was only waiting instructions to start the new arrangement and do away with the issue of worn and disinfected clothing. This is important and we trust that the Committee will see the matter through without delay.

13. As is clearly indicated in this report, there is a most marked and entirely satisfactory improvement in the construction, the official control and interest, of our coolies camp. We are sure these improvements will be thoroughly appreciated by the Planting Community, but we must abate nothing of our efforts to see that they are perpetuated.

CEYLON LABOUR COMMISSION, TRICHINOPOLY, SOUTH INDIA.

Established 1st June, 1904.

Head Office:—TRICHINOPOLY.

Cable and Telegraphic Address:—"Rubber," Trichinopoly.

Postal Address:—The Ceylon Labour Commissioner, Trichinopoly.

Central Cooly Depôt:—Trichinopoly.

Controlling Staff:—Commissioner at Trichinopoly.

"	"	Deputy Commissioner, in charge of Salem Circle, at Salem.
"	"	Assistant Commissioner, in charge of Palghat Circle, at Palghat.
"	"	Assistant Commissioner, in charge of Chittoor Circle, at Chittoor.
"	"	Assistant Commissioner, in charge of Madura Circle.
		and
"	"	Depôt Superintendent, in charge of the Central Cooly Depôt, at Trichinopoly.

Bankers:—The Bank of Madras, Colombo and Madras.

Auditors:—Messrs. Ford, Rhodes, Church & Co., Colombo.

Solicitors:—Messrs. King & Partridge, Madras.

Vakils:—Dewan Bahadur T. Desikachari, B.A., B.L., Rai Bahadur K. S. Ganapathy Iyer, M.A., M.L., Trichinopoly.

CEYLON LABOUR COMMISSIONER'S REPORT FOR 1912.

It is satisfactory to report that the statistical position of this Commission as regards Cooly Traffic shows a substantial improvement.

The returns of coolies shipped from all Ports to Ceylon during 1912 amount to 119,042 as against 97,863 during the previous year.

Of this total no less than 93,925 or 80% passed through the Agencies of the Commission as against 72,549 or 74% in 1911.

The facilities offered by the Commission are evidently becoming more generally appreciated.

REVIEW.

The absence of any serious outbreak of Cholera at Ragama Camp during the past year may account in some measure for the improvement shewn on the figures of last year, but I think it may fairly be accepted that irrespective

of this factor Ceylon Recruiting has made very considerable headway. Increased efforts have been made to obtain labour from the Coast preferably to Local Recruiting, the Superintendents offering in many instances additional attractions such as free passages, bonuses and other inducements which have undoubtedly given an impetus to Ceylon immigration which it is of importance should be maintained. The system now fairly general of keeping coolies' accounts on the estates is also becoming well-known at the Coast. The increase in the recruiting figures is, of course, more pronounced in the low-country districts where the earning power of the cooly has appreciably increased owing to the ruling rates for work in connection with rubber cultivation. Up-country tea estates have, also in a great number of cases secured a substantial supply of coast coolies, and here again the presumption is that improved conditions prevail. It is reasonable to anticipate without undue optimism, that this improvement will at least be maintained during the current year if not exceeded. I am convinced that as soon as some workable scheme is formulated in Ceylon that will land the Coast cooly on the estate for which he is recruited free of debt and make

it impossible for him to become involved in liabilities far in excess of his repaying power, that we can then look forward to the prospect of Ceylon Recruiting with equanimity, safe in the knowledge that the Colony can compete with the many other countries recruiting labour in South India on infinitely better terms, owing to its geographical position, healthy climate and old established connections with the Coast. There is no doubt that if there is any existing prejudice to emigrating to Ceylon in the mind of the Coast cooly it is occasioned by conditions that can be alleviated by combination in Ceylon itself, and that until such action takes place, I am at some disadvantage in carrying to success any extensive propaganda, such as I should like to inaugurate in the Recruiting districts commensurate with the scope of this Commission and the machinery which I have at my disposal.

PROFESSIONAL RECRUITERS.

The withdrawal of Certificates from these men and the reduction of the rate per head by the Coast Agency to a standard rate of Rs. 15 has, I am convinced, done an immense amount of good, in that it has forced the kangany to recruit in his legitimate sphere, i.e., amongst his own village connections, thus securing to himself fuller control and to Ceylon estates a far better class of cooly (I speak from personal observation of the coolies passing through Depôts) and one more likely to settle down than the riff-raff provided by the Professional Recruiter who has no further interest in the matter once he has obtained his share of the spoil. There is no doubt that this individual is still in the background at some of the Agencies, his activities being more marked perhaps in the newer districts since bolting after registration is more prevalent in them than in the older ones. In a number of bolting cases the supply in the first instance has been traced to the Professional Recruiter with whom the kangany has entered into negotiations, being unable or unwilling to recruit in his own village. The Agents have strict instructions from me to discourage the registration of coolies if they have any reason to believe that they have been obtained from a Professional Recruiter, but it is exceedingly difficult to substantiate subsequently if occasion arises whether instructions have been deliberately disobeyed or if there is a justification in the Agent's invariable plea that the coolies had, in the first place, been well primed as to what to say in reply to the examination of the Agent prior to registration. The margin of profit remaining to the Professional Recruiter now that the rate per head has been reduced to Rs. 15 cannot be appreciable. The feasibility of reducing this figure still further might well receive the consideration of my Committee, as such reduction, would, no doubt, oust the Professional Recruiter altogether. I do not think that his absence would have any substantial effect on the recruiting figures, judging from this year's results.

PREADVANCE.

The practice of giving large preadvances, except in special circumstances, is not to be commended, as it tends in a great measure to undermine the undoubted good that the reduction of the rate per head has effected during the year under report.

EUROPEAN RECRUITERS.

I should like to emphasize the fact that in all cases where subscribers to this Commission wish to retain the services of European Recruiters in order to obtain labour for their estates, reference should, in the first place, be made to this office. It is to their distinct advantage that these recruiting Agents should work through this Commission and that primary information should be given to me as to their programme and sphere of operations. If this rule was consistently observed it would in many cases not only protect the interest of subscribers, but would go a long way to strengthen the position of this Commission. In cases where these recruiting Agents object to working through this Commission and to the control afforded for the protection of the interests of its constituents, it may safely be inferred that the methods of the recruiter in question are open to criticism. Irregular methods sooner or later attract the attention of the Authorities, and I am anxious that no excuse should be given for obstruction that might jeopardize that free and increasing flow of labour into Ceylon, which it is of such vital importance should be permanently established. There are signs of growing unrest amongst the land owners of South India owing to the difficulty they experience in securing agricultural labourers on the old basis of payment, and this may definitely find expression through the increased Indian representation in Council. I do not anticipate that so long as recruiting for Ceylon is run on sound lines that we need anticipate any untoward effects from their agitation, but the necessity for safe-guarding our position will be apparent to all those who have not only their own interests, but those of the Colony at heart. The Commission in South India controlling as it does 80 per cent. of the labour passing into Ceylon occupies a unique position not enjoyed by other countries carrying out recruiting operations in South India. Concerted action in the matter will greatly strengthen my hand, so that recruiting in the future may not only be rendered increasingly attractive to the cooly himself, but be looked upon by the Government and those who show some tendency to opposition as a wholesome outlet for the surplus population of the country and preferable to migration to other countries farther-a-field.

AGENTS.

The systematic inspections of these Agencies has unfortunately established the fact that in some cases the Agents were quite unfitted for the trust reposed in them. In accordance with adverse reports from my Assistants and in consideration of the numberless complaints from the Estate Superintendents in connection with bribery and extortion said to be practised at some of these Agencies, I had to exercise the unpleasant duty of dispensing with the services of no less than 11 Agents for various misdemeanours and have replaced these men by the appointment of Pensioned Officers, either Military or Revenue, and holding the highest testimonials from their superior Officers as to their capability and integrity. It may be necessary to effect a few more changes before the conduct of my Agencies attains that status of efficiency to which I look forward. I trust that the current year will show a substantial decline in the number of complaints and serious allegations against my Agents with which I came into contact on my assumption of office. There is no doubt in

my mind that very little discrimination in the past was exercised in the selection of Agents, and to this fact may be attributed the unpopularity of certain Agencies and the poor results shewn. In some cases the dismissed officials have held office in the Commission from its inception, and the necessity for strong action has been very distasteful to me, but it has not been possible to take length of service into consideration where palpable dishonesty has been disclosed. The strong measures I have taken are, I think, already bringing home to the staff of this Commission the necessity in their own interest for working on more straightforward lines as from the reports of my Assistants, I notice a distinct improvement throughout the Agencies and the absence of any serious complaints from Estate Superintendents is also noticeable.

REJECTION OF MINORS.

I have issued very stringent instructions to my Agents in connection with this question, and in no case are children permitted to be registered at the Agencies without the written authority of the parents or guardians, or a signed permit from the village Officials.

The cases of minors passing through to Ceylon have been in consequence few, I am glad to say, and I invariably find that the Superintendents meet me most readily in the matter of their return under responsible escort.

This is a sound policy and tends to enhance the credit of this Commission in South India, and thereby safeguard the interests of Ceylon recruiting generally. Similar instructions exist as to solitary women.

CEYLON LABOUR COMMISSIONER.

Mr. Norman Rowsell relinquished his office 24th May, 1912, and Mr. Charles G. Ryan undertook the Acting appointment until 19th July, 1912, when I assumed from him the permanent appointment. I should like to record my appreciation of the trouble taken by Mr. Charles G. Ryan to facilitate my induction to the work.

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONERS.

Mr. Dunning's services were no longer retained after the end of December, 1911.

Mr. George Dupen was appointed as an Assistant in February of the year under report, as was Mr. Whitfield, who, however, resigned in the following month.

Mr. John Still left the service about the same time in order to take up an appointment in Ceylon.

Mr. Rutherford Lee joined as Assistant in May, as did Mr. Ferguson who has resigned his appointment as from January 31st, 1913.

Prior to my taking over charge I find that there had been no definite programme or system of work undertaken by the Assistants.

After giving the matter careful consideration I have endeavoured as far as possible to decentralize the work of the Commission in order to take the fullest advantage of the assistance available. I have arranged that a fortnight to eighteen days in each month should be occupied in camping work and Agency Inspection, the remainder of the month spent at the Headquarters of their Circle in order to attend to office work.

ASSISTANTS' CAMPING WORK

consists of travelling through the recruiting districts, distributing advertisements, interviewing officials, obtaining useful information as regards crops and local rates, labour available for emigration, etc., etc. When in the vicinity of villages, looking up kanganies who are indicated as being over from Ceylon from reference to their Kangany Register, these reports being submitted to estates interested. The camping reports are sent monthly to the Coast Agency Committee from this office.

ASSISTANTS' AGENCY INSPECTIONS.

This is undertaken monthly as far as possible, but where the distance is too great as for example in some of the Telugu Agencies, the inspection is bi-monthly. Cash balances are checked, books inspected, Superintendents or coolies complaints are enquired into and a confidential report in this connection is submitted to Head Office.

ASSISTANTS' OFFICE WORK.

This consists of writing up camping and Agency Inspection Reports, checking all Agents and peons travelling, and batta bills submitted in their Circle and forwarding same to Head Office for payment. Formerly these were dealt with direct from Head Office by the clerical staff, and the system must have proved a very expensive one. These bills are not now passed without careful checking and comparison with district maps, and the knowledge of distances and situations of villages acquired by the Assistants when camping. All establishment bills made up monthly by the Agents are likewise checked by the Assistants and sent in for payment. The above responsibility abrogated to my Assistants has had ample justification seeing that the submission by the Agents and their staff of unearned batta and travelling bills and irregular charges in connection with their Agencies has been rendered much more difficult.

COMMISSIONER'S CAMPING WORK.

It has not so far been possible for me to undertake any extensive camping programme such as I should like to do, and which it is in the interest of the work of this Commission that I should do periodically. Since my arrival my time has been fully occupied at the Head Office gradually reorganising where necessary and clearing off arrears of correspondence which had been permitted to accumulate. Under the arrangements I am endeavouring to complete, I look forward to being able to give a proportion of my time to touring the recruiting districts and inspecting my Agencies, so as to keep in touch with my Agents and assimilating a knowledge of local conditions without which it is not possible for me to render myself as efficient as my position demands.

TRICHINOPOLY DEPÔT.

During the last six months it has been necessary to effect various changes in the conduct of this large coolie Depôt and to incur a fairly substantial outlay under the heading of sanitation in order to bring the camp up-to-date and in accordance with the recommendations of the local authorities.

STAFF.

In addition to my own supervision there is now a permanent European Official as Depot Superintendent, who directly controls the Officials, listens to coolies' complaints and furnishes daily reports to me. No payments of any sort are made to coolies and kanganyes except in the presence of this Officer, who checks such payments with the bills and pronotes prior to signature. This rule protects the coolie as far as possible from extortion. It has been necessary to dispense with the services of some of the Indian Officials and peons, the former have been replaced by Indian Officers of good standing holding excellent credentials, and the latter by time expired soldiers selected for their good conduct record.

The Clerical Staff of this Depot which was unnecessarily large has been appreciably reduced, to be augmented in the busy season by temporary clerks if required.

CATERING.

The quality of the food supplied to the coolies is kept up to the mark by daily inspection, and there have been few complaints. The present caterers will make way in May next for a European Firm of high standing who will undertake the feeding of this Depot, and possibly take up the contract at all the other Agencies situated on the South Indian Railway Line if negotiations that I am entering into are of a satisfactory nature. The existing method of feeding houses is not satisfactory, and I find that the coolies have in many cases to pay too high a rate for their meals, no doubt to provide a profit for someone else besides the actual caterers.

SANITATION.

Latrines and Incinerators on the most approved pattern have been erected in the Depot. A Fly-proof kitchen has been built, and everything done to improve the sanitary conditions of the camp and prevent flies consistent with the Municipal requirements.

A large well has been sunk in the main Depot grounds, and this and all the other wells have been covered in, and have had pumps attached. These wells are only utilised for washing purposes, and drinking water is supplied by taps drawing on the Municipal water supply. I have obtained sanction for some more taps which will complete this system.

The health of the coolies passing through the Depot this year has been excellent.

CHOLERA AND SMALL-POX CAMP.

In order to be prepared for eventualities and to avoid any chance of again incurring the displeasure of the local authorities, such as in 1911, I have partitioned off a portion of the Segregation Camp (in which the coolies from Plague-infected areas are detained for the segregation period), and have erected temporary sheds for the accommodation of Cholera and Small-Pox cases. In the event of an outbreak of Cholera or Small-Pox, cases can be at once dealt with, and the risk of spreading infection in the town itself is thereby avoided.

Owing to the elasticity of Tataparai Camp, in the event of Ports being temporarily closed for emigration to Ceylon,

I find that there is no necessity to permit the Trichy Depot to get congested with coolies. By arrangements with the Tataparai Authorities, coolies will be passed through until I receive instructions from them that all their accommodation, which I understand is very large, is taken up. In this eventuality registration at all out Agencies would be stopped. This would be the last resort. I have made these arrangements with a view to run the least risk of congestion at Trichinopoly, which means not only that the Authorities here are apt to become restless but also that recruiting receives a check from which it takes sometime to recover.

ESTATE RECRUITING CERTIFICATES.

These, on the lines already indicated, should be invariably handed to the Kangany, after signature by the Superintendent, for use on his recruiting expedition, as the possession of this voucher will secure him from interference. In Mysore without this document it is impossible for him to recruit at all. A standard form for estate use is being printed by this Commission and a supply will be forwarded to estates as soon as they are available.

I understand that these standard forms emanating from the Commission and signed by the Superintendents would be recognized by the Mysore Government, and in any case if the Commission do not take the lead in this respect the Government will themselves adopt a standard form. It therefore appears politic to issue a form stamped with the crest of the Ceylon Labour Commission, such as I propose and which I have incorporated in this report. There is no reason why it should not be universally used throughout the recruiting districts of South India.

OFFICE AND FINANCE.

Reorganisation of the Head Office system has been taken in hand, and I think I can safely say the changes already effected have tended to increased efficiency.

Owing to a somewhat protracted period of laissez faire, it has been difficult to eradicate slack habits and dilatoriness with which I have come in contact. From what I can see the staff at my disposal comes up to the standard of other establishments. The work during the last few months has been very strenuous, and they have worked over-time consistently and cheerfully, thus in a great measure facilitating the necessary changes.

Mr. Donaldson, the Accountant, assumed duties on October 2nd, and in the short time at his disposal has already done much to bring the book-keeping into line with the requirements of the Auditors, relieving congestion and removing all pecuniary responsibility from the clerical staff.

The office is now being run on up-to-date lines and consistent with the demands of a business of this magnitude.

Complaints from Superintendents are having the promptest attention, but if at times it has been impossible to put matters right in the completest way, I am sure it will be sufficiently realized that reform if it is to be of a permanent and sound nature will take time to effect. The work of the office has very materially increased during the last six months of the year owing partly to the changes necessary, and also to my endeavour to utilise to the fullest extent the machinery at my disposal for the benefit of

recruiting. I do not think that it can be realised by anyone who has not paid a visit to Trichinopoly what a large business if conducted here.

AUDIT.

Messrs. Ford, Rhodes, Church & Co. have completed the Audit for the first half of the year and are now engaged on the latter half.

ESTATE ACCOUNTS

should always carry a credit balance, which prevents Kanganies and coolies being detained and possible loss of coolies by bolting whilst waiting for advances pending reference to Superintendents.

PASS BOOKS

should be sent to Trichinopoly for entering up once a month. If these Pass Books are not written up regularly, but sent on say 30th June and 31st December only, the accumulation of work cannot be got through by the staff without delay equally inconvenient to Superintendents and the Commission.

A. Forms signed by Assistant Superintendents sometimes give the names of divisions of estates only, not the name of the estate for which we have an account, which is apt to cause confusion when debiting disbursements.

SUPERVISION OF KANGANIES.

A complete register is being kept of kanganies sent over to recruit, and as far as possible their operations and activities are enquired into and reports furnished to the Head Office by the Assistant Commissioners, which reports are passed on to the estate concerned. This supervision is undertaken by the Assistants when camping. The moral effect of the presence of a European in a village from time to time looking up kanganies is good, and in many cases a kangany can be vouched for the distinct advantage to his recruiting operations. It will readily be understood that it would be impossible for the Assistants to do this work in anything approaching completion, and as an auxiliary I have appointed (as an experiment) a few Indian Travelling Agents to undertake this work and to distribute advertisements to be increased if funds are sanctioned; one taluk in each district will be thoroughly exploited before passing on to another. The work of these travelling Agents will be continuous, and I trust the good results of this supervision will be apparent in that it will bring home to the kanganies that they are under observation and liable to be called to account and explain adverse reports on return to Ceylon. My object is also to give Superintendents the fullest information in order that they can exercise greater discrimination in sending over kanganies, as at present many quite unsuitable men who have neither aptitude nor desire to secure labour in their villages are allowed to obtain financial assistance.

ADVERTISING.

I intend making this a feature of my programme during the coming year. Far too little of this important work has been undertaken in the past. "Advertising is to business what steam is to machinery the great propelling

power." I have appointed Indian Travelling Agents to itinerate from village to village distributing handbills and supervising at the same time the work of your kanganies furnishing reports which will be forwarded for the information of those interested. Further amplification of this Scheme depends upon funds at my disposal.

To render completely attractive any advertisement emanating from this Commission it should comprise a statement that the cost of the coolies migration from his village to the estate for which he is to be recruited will be borne by the estate concerned. The absence of this assurance which it is impossible for me to incorporate in any advertisement without a mandate from your Committee that such a universal arrangement has been arrived at, is detrimental to Ceylon recruiting, in that other countries are making capital of the fact for their own advantage in the recruiting districts.

RECRUITING SEASON, 1913.

Superintendents who are making arrangements to visit South India during the coming year (and I trust they will be numerous) should communicate with me, and I shall be glad to afford them all information and assistance that it is in my power to do. I would ask that in every case a visit should be paid to my Head Office prior to the commencement of operations, as this step will not only facilitate the necessary assistance from this office, but owing to the status of this Commission its recognition is often very useful.

Guidance in many cases will save unnecessary outlay, and perhaps friction with the Authorities.

Instructions given or assistance asked for from out Agencies cannot be given without the sanction of the Head Office, who must be made aware in the first place as to the requirements of the Superintendent if responsibility is to be accepted.

I have appended a list of camp equipment to this report without which no European should attempt to start Camping work in the villages or to utilise the Dak Bungalows, which are devoid of suitable furniture or cooking utensils.

- 1 "X" Camp Cot with Mosquito Poles.
- 1 Tiffin Basket fitted for two.
- 1 Aluminium Cooking Canteen in case.
- 1 Autotherm Flask with case (pint size.)
- 2 Camp Candle-sticks in case.
- 1 D. P. W. Lantern in case.
- 1 Camp Filter.
- 1 Camp Washstand and basin with leather top.
- 1 Camp Mirror.
- 1 Camp Travelling Medicine Chest.
- 1 Camp Travelling Commode.

BRIBERY AND EXTORTION.

This matter has had my serious and constant attention since my arrival, and I am doing everything that it is possible to do to afford the coolies protection from molestation and unfair treatment.

A. FORMS.

I have found it necessary to redraft this form in order to facilitate payments, and at the same time giving increased safeguards to the drawers against fraud of various kinds. In some cases where complaints against Agents

THE PLANTING GAZETTE.

have been made to an individual, who had impersonated the recruiter in whose favour the A. form was drawn. The new system will, I trust, prevent as far as possible any possibility of fraud.

DEFAULTING DEPARTMENT.

The work of this department continues to increase, and the results of this year's working show a substantial increase on last year. A new form for use in this department, known as the B. form, has been instituted, and books of these forms have been posted to Superintendents. It will facilitate tracing of defaulters if Superintendents will fill these forms in carefully, and at the same time it will do away with the necessity of a lengthy letter giving descriptions.

I would point out that the work of the Defaulters Department depends entirely upon the efforts of the staff, and that our methods of recovery are passive and not coercive.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER.

Mr. H. Farquharson, having been transferred to Salem Circle, of which he has charge, is doing good work, and from his knowledge of the country should be able to render valuable assistance to Ceylon estates having recruiting connections in that district. He is endeavouring to re-establish a footing in the Mysore State, which I am convinced is practicable if careful attention is prepared to the requirements of the Government by those undertaking recruiting operations.

Notes submitted by the Deputy Commissioner :—

"Late in 1911 on my recommendation 4 subsidiary Agencies were opened in the Salem District as a trial, vide Page 2 of Mr. Rowsell's last Annual Report. At the time that report was written it was too early to say if the experiment had been successful or not. Now, however, that these additional Agencies have been working a year, it is apparent that the trial has been eminently successful. In 1911 the total number of coolies despatched from the Salem District was 1,400, whereas in 1902 this one district has despatched no less than 3,375 coolies. These figures speak for themselves and even allowing that the year 1912 was a better one for recruiting than 1911, the extraordinary increase shown cannot be entirely attributed to that cause.

At the time the Planters' Association decided to limit advances on A. Forms to Rs 15 a head a certain amount of fear was felt that the discouragement of this would mean to the work of the Professional Recruiter, who at the time was supplying a very large proportion of Ceylon's new labour, would result in a very serious falling off in the number of coolies recruited. It is pleasing to note that on the contrary recruiting since the enforcement of Rs. 15 limit has increased, and this serves to show clearly that the Professional Recruiter is a gentleman (or should I say reptile) whom it is quite easy to do without.

The harm that these Professional Recruiters have done to the good name of Ceylon in the villages is incalculable. Coolies recruited by these men have returned to their villages with tales of how they arrived in Ceylon to find themselves saddled with a large debt of which they knew nothing, this debt being largely the heavy commission that had gone into the recruiter's pocket. The result on the other villages may be imagined. Another evil of this system of recruiting, on which I will not enlarge, is the class of cooly that was being sent over. The improvement since the discouragement of the Professional Recruiter is most marked.

Recruiting for the Straits Settlements and Penang continues actively, and there is no doubt that those Colonies have a very good name in many of the villages of this Presidency. This has been brought personally to my notice when out in the district, and only to-day at several villages I visited I met

coolies who had returned from Penang who were well satisfied with their venture to Foreign parts. They had brought money back with them and stated that it was easy for a cooly to earn from 12 to 13 annas daily. This is undoubtedly the finest form of advertisement, and if only coolies would return from Ceylon with similar reports recruiting for the Island would receive a tremendous fillup.

SALEM DISTRICT.

Recruiting prospects for the year 1913 are exceptionally bright. The 1912 crops were fair, but owing to insufficient rain in December, this year's crops are likely to be a failure. Provided that sufficient kanganies are sent over to recruit I confidently expect a substantial increase in the number of coolies who will be recruited in this district during the year 1913 as against the figures for 1912. As in 1912 more coolies have been despatched from the Salem district than in any previous year, this means that I forecast a bumper year.

MYSORE.

Recruiting in this State for Ceylon is just recovering from the set back it received in 1911, and although I do not anticipate that a very large number of coolies will be recruited during 1913, I have every hope that the figures for 1913 will far exceed those of 1912. At present there are very few kanganies recruiting in Mysore, and it is to be hoped that those estates having connections in Mysore will send men over to recruit without delay.

DHARWAR DISTRICT.

Recruiting prospects in this district are good, but as this is a comparatively new area, as regards recruiting for Ceylon it requires a good deal of working up before it will become an important Recruiting ground for Ceylon. It would pay Superintendents who wish to establish new connections in the Telugu country to visit this and the Anantapur and Bellary districts, but they should be prepared for a lot of uphill work.

BELLARY AND ANANTAPUR DISTRICTS.

My remarks re Dharwar apply to these districts equally.

(Signed) H. FARQUHARSON,

Deputy Commissioner.

FIRST ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER.

Mr. G. S. Dupen has charge of the Palghat Circle, and he reports hopefully on Malabar recruiting if those estates who have worked up connections in this country will persevere. The density of the population is effectively demonstrated by the Census Report of 1911, and should prove in the future a fine field for recruiting operations.

Notes submitted by the 1st Assistant Commissioner :—

I venture to suggest that Superintendents should exercise more discrimination as to the class of man they send across to recruit, a large number of the men who come to India are absolutely useless for recruiting, and generally do more harm than good, they either loaf about their villages and do nothing or else wait about at the Agencies for Professional Recruiters to bring them coolies, and they very often cause disturbance at the Agencies and give the Commission a bad name.

I think it a good plan for Superintendents to send several men across to recruit, and after these men have been recruiting for a fortnight or a month, their Superintendent could come to India and look up these men, camping for a few days in their villages. It would, I am sure, have a beneficial effect.

When all coolies are landed free of debt and from the moment they commence work draw their pay, then Ceylon will not have such difficulty in getting labour. The Straits emigration is very popular for this reason, though the distance is greater.

As regards Malabar, if the Superintendents will only stick to the right cases of coolies, there will not be so much trouble in the future. Tiyas, Ezuvans and Cherumans are all agricultural people, and I see no reason why they should not be a

success in Ceylon, provided they have their own separate lines, and have a Malayalee over them. The Nair castes should never be recruited for estate work.

During the year 1912 I have camped in the Malabar, Salem, Coimbatore and Mysore and North Malabar districts. I was in the Head Office at Trichy for over two months from January to the 15th March, '12, I was instructed not to do any camping, as I was busy settling some trouble connected with the Palghat Agency.

I have travelled 677 miles by Motor Cycle (though this does not constitute all the travelling done by the Motor Cycle, many miles having been covered in inspecting Agencies, etc.) I have also travelled 85 miles by boat and 3,456 miles by train, a total mileage of 4,218. I have camped in and stopped at nearly a hundred villages and towns. During my tours I have advertised the Commission very thoroughly, as during my tours I have discovered that much harm has been done by Professional Recruiters who have given emigration a bad name. Since the Commission has become better known, there is a decided inclination to go to Ceylon in most of the villages, its sound way of working and just treatment of the coolies is creating a feeling of confidence, and I may state that at almost every place of importance at which I have camped, a likely emigrant has come to me wishing to be sent to Ceylon.

With regard to prospects for future recruiting, I consider them very good, it is perhaps looking too far ahead, but travelling so many miles as I have through the villages, I have been struck with the numbers of small children that at once congregate around the Motor Cycle, making one think that the future generation will be an increasing one, and the Government should be glad of such a Commission as ours which certainly helps to prevent poverty.

I have discovered during my travels that a large amount of money is sent to India every year from Ceylon by coolies who have been sent there by the Commission.

As regards recruiting prospects in my Circle, Malabar prospects are excellent, Coimbatore, owing to plague, not so good. North Madurai is an excellent recruiting ground, and the coolies are a very good class. In the Ponani taluk of Malabar there is a large poor population who only need to hear of work in Ceylon, and feel sure of being well treated to go. Everything depends on the class of man sent across to recruit, the coolies are like children who can be led and attracted by fair treatment and a man who they feel they can trust. I think I may say that it has done a great deal of good having Assistant Commissioners travelling about the country, as there is no doubt that the Europeans give great confidence to the coolies. I have had a vast experience of the Indian coolies since I have been in this country, employing under my own eye many thousands of them.

I am sure that the year 1913 will show a decided improvement on 1912.

(Signed) G. S. DUPEN,
Assistant Commissioner.

2ND ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER, MR. J. H. RUTHERFORD LEE, Chittoor Circle. The same remarks apply to the Telugu countries which come under his observation.

Notes submitted by the 2nd Assistant Commissioner:—

"These few months are the worst and most discouraging in which to judge the possibilities of recruiting labour.

This year the rains have been good all over Chittoor Circle, and especially so in the South and as far North as Nellore. This will certainly discourage the people from leaving their homes until rather later in the year than usual. In the beginning of the year and well into the month of March coolies will not go in any great numbers except in North and South Arcots and perhaps in Guntur.

Good rains for a short time, however, by no means mean a bad year's recruiting, and there is no reason why the figures for this year should not exceed those of the previous year as usual. In the Northern districts I look for a great increase of emigration to Ceylon.

In the Tamil districts of North Arcot, Arkonam and Katpadi Agencies South Arcot (Villupuram Agency) and Chingleput good connections have been formed as soon as the harvest are all in, in March coolies who have relations or friends

in Ceylon will be ready to go there as usual and others seeing those going, will be offering to go too.

These are excellent districts for recruiting. The people here are going to Ceylon in ever increasing numbers, and this notwithstanding that the districts are not poor ones. I have been surprised considering the amount of cultivation and work to be had, to see how readily the people will emigrate. But connections have been formed with Ceylon and the people know something of the conditions there.

This is a great argument for exploiting the field for recruiting still farther North in the Telugu districts.

In Cuddapah especially and in Nellore and Guntur the people are nothing like so well off as in Chingleput and S. Arcot, which show the highest recruiting figures in Chittoor Circle.

Cuddapah is a very poor district and parts of Nellore are such the same. Men's wages are about 3 annas a day and women's 2 annas or even 1½ annas. There is often no work to be had, and therefore no wages to earn, notwithstanding the comparative sparseness of the population, and numbers are found to be dragging on one very poor meal a day. Many coolies go to Burma during the long dry season.

Chittoor is a bi-lingual district between Cuddapah and North Arcot. Here also I reckon the prospects distinctly good. Superintendents recruiting North of Katpadi should address their A. Forms to Chittoor Agency.

Godaveri and Kistna districts are not very good fields for recruiting to begin with at any rate. The population is dense, but the people are well off as there are very large areas of delta cultivation. The men from these districts go alone in large numbers to Rangoon for Town work and come back with their savings.

Coconada Agency, however, is in touch with Vizagapatam District and Agency where connections have been formed with Ceylon and where recruiting would be very good, but that the people there are in the habit of going to Assam and the other planting areas in the North. They also flock South, however, to the better cultivated lands of Godaveri and Kistna to find work and many could be induced to go to Ceylon.

I feel strongly inclined to recommend Guntur Agency as a good base for forming new connections. This Agency is in touch with dry areas to the North and West and with Kurnool where rainfall is seldom abundant, and where I am sure there are great numbers of able-bodied coolies to be had. The people there are also of better physique and, I believe, not so sophisticated as those further South and East.

Planters who have opened new clearings in the low-country of Ceylon often find it difficult to place a sufficient labour force on these places, when they come into bearing by means of their old Tamil connections in the Southern districts. These cannot do better than to try the new Agencies in the Telugu districts, where there is plenty of labour to be had which at present goes largely to the Straits and elsewhere.

The Telugu do not go such to Ceylon, many because they do not know of it and more merely because they are afraid to go there first. It means simply getting in the thin edge of the wedge.

The best way to do this is to send over an energetic conductor with several kangannies or good coolies (there are several castes among estate coolies who nearly always speak Telugu of a sort, such as Reddi, Sakkilian Kaverai, who call themselves Naidu. One or two estates did this last year with great success. It is quite useless to send Tamil kangannies alone.

The bolder spirits recruited in this way should be sent back to their villages as soon as possible. It encourage the people to see their friends come back soon with a little money in their hands, and if they have a good story to tell their more timid fellow-villagers will follow them readily. If recruits from a new district are not sent back soon, or at least allowed to remit money and news to their relations, the villagers simply reckon Ceylon as a place, like the far distant Natal and Fiji, in which people disappear and are never heard of again, so they are afraid to go there.

Coolies or kangannies sent back to recruit in Telugu districts especially should always be able to draw a small pre-advance at the Agency to which they are going to bring their recruits for registration.

Telugu coolies, except those from the Eastern coast line, generally prefer Ragi to Rice. I have heard of complaints that coolies were starved in Ceylon because they got nothing to eat

but rice. Ragi takes much longer to digest than rice. Telugus will work all day on one good meal, whereas if they fill themselves with rice they are hungry again an hour or two afterwards. If Superintendents who have a force of Telugu coolies arranged to supply them with ragi they would appreciate it."

(Signed) J. H. RUTHERFORD LEE,
Assistant Commissioner.

3RD ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER, MR. W. FERGUSON, has acted as Depôt Superintendent and visited the Agencies in his Circle from time to time.

With the Assistants available I am endeavouring to render the work of this Commission as helpful as possible to Ceylon recruiting, but the necessity for further additions to the staff is no doubt apparent to my Committee and will receive their consideration.

AGENCIES.—Various changes have been effected during the year. The Sub-Agencies opened under the control of the chief Salem Agent have been taken under the direct control of the Commission and graded as 3rd Class Agencies for the present, as I found the original arrangement was most unsatisfactory.

The Agencies generally throughout the Commission have been graded as 1st, 2nd and 3rd Class according to their importance relative to the number of coolies passing through, and establishment charges adjusted as far as possible to correspond.

The following old Agencies were closed as they were not successful.

"ANANTAPUR AND KRISHNAGIRI."

The following new Agencies were opened during the year in their respective Circles and should facilitate recruiting in course of time.

"TIRUPATHUR, TIRUR, CHITTOOR, CANNANORE AND NANJANGODE."

Nanjangode in Mysore is an auxiliary to Bangalore and will accommodate coolies recruited in the South of that State.

Similarly an Agency is about to be opened at Sholapur or Hotgi to tap the Southern Mahratta District from where coolies are being recruited in increasing numbers.

An Agency has been opened at Cannanore, which is a favourable centre for Malayalam recruiting.

The new Agencies have been opened on trial, and will be closed if they do not subsequently justify expenditure.

ESTATE REQUIREMENTS.

The Ceylon Labour Commission is prepared to purchase and ship to Colombo Indian cattle for estate work, coolie cloths, cumblies and any other estate requisites produced and manufactured in India. A small Commission will be charged on each transaction, and I think it would pay estates well to give this Commission an opportunity of obtaining supplies on these lines, which should benefit the estates concerned by reduced cost and also lower the working expenses of the Commission.

The estates could send their own kanganyes to select suitable cloths and cattle-keepers to select cattle suitable for their work.

THE UNITED PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH INDIA.

A certain amount of correspondence has passed between this Commission and the above Association during the last half of the year in connection with a Circular in the Vernacular which emanated from one of its Members and was distributed throughout the recruiting districts. The situation was somewhat aggravated owing to the methods of a European Recruiter for Ceylon having been called in question by the South Indian Planters, and the Press comments on both sides did not tend to allay friction. I am glad to say that the result of my correspondence with the Association in question suggests the prospect of a better mutual understanding with the South Indian Planters in the future, which I shall endeavour to cement when I visit Bangalore.

Amicable intercourse and free exchange of views between the two influential Associations of Ceylon and South India is surely not too much to look forward to, and there is no reason to suppose that any difference that may arise in the future cannot be satisfactorily settled through the medium of this Commission. Recruiting within the planting area of the South Indian Estates is both unnecessary and indefensible, and I am using the influence of this Commission to prevent it.

VISITORS.

The Head Office and Depôt were visited by several people, including Messrs. G. C. Bliss, Chairman, Planters' Association of Ceylon; C. G. Ryan, Special Labour Commissioner, G. B. Armstrong, Auditor of Messrs. Ford, Rhodes, Church & Co., Colombo; M. Young, i.c.s., Collector and District Magistrate, Trichinopoly; Cave Browne of Dunsinane Estate; Geo. A. Ramsay of Bopitiya Estate; S. B. Murray, Superintending Engineer; B. G. McCloughin, Chairman, Municipal Council, Trichinopoly; Col. Pereira, i.m.s., District Medical and Sanitary Officer, Trichinopoly; Col. Thomas, i.m.s., District Medical and Sanitary Officer, Trichinopoly; R. S. G. Higgins, Ellagalla; M. R. Ry. T. Ponnuswamy Thevar Avl., Municipal Councillor, Trichinopoly.

The following Estate Superintendents visited India on recruiting expedition in 1912.

Messrs. J. A. Coombe, Poonagalla; C. A. Heartly, Delta; C. Walker, The Park; A. E. Walford, Mount Vernon; E. S. Stephens, Havilland; W. Allan, Passara Group; Horsfall, Troy; Antony Browne, Delwita; William Hendry, Alupolla Group; L. Cross Buchanan, Palmerston; C. A. Hall, Hall, Ambadeniya; E. R. E. Geddes, Madempe; George Stewart, Westmorland; J. P. Blackmore, St. Andrews Estate; L. B. Green, East Holyrood; F. B. B. Goodfellow, Carson & Co.; M. Chelliah, Dalhousie; G. B. W. Walker, St. John Del Rey; Alfred Bava, Elladua; W. H. Taylor, Yellangowry; F. R. A. Brown, Houpe; George Hawkins, Rilhena; A. D. G. Burnett, Halgolle; W. H. Barrett, Rondura; A. F. B. Smeaton, Sapumalkande; H. Eckert, Oakfield; C. E. A. Dias, Wawulugala.

(Signed) H. SCOBLE NICHOLSON,
Ceylon Labour Commissioner.

GENERAL INFORMATION REGARDING THE WORKING OF THE CEYLON LABOUR COMMISSION.

MEMBERSHIP OF CEYLON LABOUR COMMISSION OR THE COAST AGENCY.

2. Estates willing to join the Ceylon Labour Commission or the Coast Agency should pay in advance an annual subscription of 30 cents per cultivated acre to the Secretary, Planters' Association of Ceylon, Kandy, Ceylon. This rate is subject to adjustment by the Coast Agency Committee from time to time.

Assistance will be afforded *only to Estates subscribing to the Agency.*

The Ceylon Labour Commission or Coast Agency has been established in South India in order to facilitate in every way the recruiting of agricultural labourers for Ceylon estates. The Commission undertakes *no* direct recruiting, but the scope of the Commission consists in the following:—

Financing and assisting kanganies who came over from Ceylon on recruiting expeditions on the orders of the Estate Superintendents.

Registering coolies at the various Agencies and forwarding them on to Ceylon. Passing them through the Dépôts, feeding and protecting them from molestation in every form as far as possible. Rejection of, medically unfit, minors, solitary women and undesirables.

Supervision of kanganies sent over to recruit and furnishing reports to the estates from which they come.

RECRUITING PROSPECTS.

Furnishing information to the Coast Agency Committee and estates concerned as to labour conditions ruling in South India, and prospects of recruiting in various districts from month to month based on camping report furnished by the Controlling Staff.

Advertising Ceylon throughout the recruiting districts of South India, overlooking and criticism of all recruiting carried out in South India with the object of maintaining the good name of Ceylon, together with the enhancement of emigration to that Colony.

RECRUITING CERTIFICATES.

4. These are supplied to every kangany signed by the Commissioner on arrival at the Agency to which he intends to bring in labourers. (Specimen is given under Exhibit A.)

SIGNED STATEMENT.

In addition to this Certificate it is of the greatest importance that the Estate Superintendent should provide each kangany with a signed statement as to the terms of service on his estate, details as to free passages, bonus, &c. The kanganies should be introduced to show these to the village officials as a guarantee of good faith.

A Standard Form as above is kept in stock at the Head office, and will be supplied to estates on application (see Exhibit. B.)

5. A. FORM.—When sending a kangany over to recruit, he should be granted an A. Form (Exhibit C.) The use of these forms (see following page) is governed by the following rules on page 12, which should be carefully studied.

“EXHIBIT A.”

T. T. No.....

Ref. No.....

CERTIFICATE.

Ceylon Labour Commission, Trichinopoly.

.....Agency.....191 ..

.....son of.....

.....Caste.....Town or Village.....Taluq ..

.....District, is recruiting coolies for Ceylon.....Est.

Thumb mark of right hand.



Ceylon Labour Commissioner.

When making subsequent payments, thumb impressions should be taken and compared.

(Above form is printed in English and Tamil.)

The following, also in English and Tamil, is printed on the back of certificate.

The Ceylon Labour Commissioner does not hold himself responsible for the objectionable methods, if any, which might be resorted to by the bearer in recruiting for coolies. He himself, and NOT THE COMMISSIONER, will be accountable in law for his acts.

PROFESSIONAL RECRUITERS.

6. This Commission does not in any way recognize Professional Recruiters and professionally recruited coolies brought in by kanganies for registration at the Agencies are, as far as practicable, discarded.

RAILWAY WARRANTS.

7. By an arrangement this Commission has made with the Railway Authorities on this side, Commissioner's warrants are accepted for the kanganies and coolies' fares. They are entrained in Reserved Compartments, safely conveyed and delivered at the Government Immigration Dépôt at *Tataparaï cum Tuticorin* for embarkation to Ceylon. Peons travel in charge of coolies, protecting them from molestation in every form.

TIN TICKETS AND COMMISSION CARDS.

8. Kanganies before leaving from the Coast should be supplied with sufficient tin tickets for their probable requirements, the number of the tin tickets being noted in the A. Form.

Commission Cards will only be issued for *bona fide* excess coolies, i.e., such coolies, over and above the number it was expected the kanganies would bring and for such excess coolies a separate card will be issued for each cooly.

The issue *Commission Cards* for excess coolies at least 60% of a gang must hold tin tickets, otherwise the excess coolies will be forwarded at full rates from *Tataparaï*.

This Certificate is valid up to 191 ..

"EXHIBIT B."

CEYLON LABOUR COMMISSION, TRICHINOPOLY.

RECRUITING FOR.....ESTATE.....POST OFFICE, CEYLON.

1. Tea or Rubber Estates.

Rs. As. Ps.

Wages paid to men per diem

" to women per diem

" to boys & girls

Tea or Rubber Factory coolies

Wages paid to men per diem

[N.B.—Wages should be entered in *annas* and *pies* and not in *cents*.]

2. Coolies can earn extra wages without working over time.

Sunday wages paid in cash.

3. A good family (a man, woman and working child) can earn easily Rs.....to Rs.....per mensem.

4. Wages are paid monthly direct into the coolies' hands by the Estate Superintendent.

5. Coolies' Accounts are maintained by the Estate Superintendent.

6. All grievances are immediately enquired into and redressed by the Estate Superintendent. He is always accessible to coolies and understands the vernacular.

7. Coolies wishing to write or send money to their villages will be assisted by the Estate Superintendent.

Government Postal Savings Bank is situated close to the estate.

8. Free quarters, medical aid, fire wood and vegetable gardens are provided.

9. The climate is good and good drinking water is available.

10. Coolies can have their own form of worship and celebrate their festivals in their usual way. Free school are provided for coolies' children.

11. Working tools, baskets and implements are supplied free of charge.

12. Good rice and curry stuffs, &c., are supplied to coolies at low rates.

13. All coolies are properly registered at the Ceylon Labour Commission Agencies and their relations can always obtain information about them on application.

14. Recruiting for Ceylon is free and unconditional and there is no indenture.

15. The Ceylon Labour Commission takes every care from the time of registration until the time of embarkation and protects the coolies as far as possible from extortion and maltreatment. Every facility is offered by the Estate Superintendent to kangani and coolies to proceed to their villages to see their relations and recruit coolies.

16. Concession passage, &c.

17. Bearer.....kangany is recruiting coolies for this estate

Estate }

191 }

Superintendent.

(The following instructions to the Kangany are in Tamil.)

NOTICE.

1. No labour is to be recruited near any South Indian Tea, Coffee or Rubber Estates.

2. Minors or married women are not to be taken on without the consent of their parents and husbands. Infringement of this rule will render you liable to a fine.

3. No coolies may be taken on from any labour-recruiting Depot.

4. In the event of trouble, communicate by post or by personal interview with the Commissioner at Trichinopoly, who will give the matter his immediate attention.

5. Illegal means of recruiting labour are prohibited, you will be personally held liable for any breach in this respect.

(This form is printed in English and Tamil.)

"EXHIBIT C."

No.

A FORM.

* DUPLICATE.

The Ceylon Labour Commissioner,
Trichinopoly.

No.

THE CEYLON LABOUR COMMISSIONER,
Trichinopoly.

Date..... Superintendent

Head Kangany..... Estate

Sub-Kangany..... Tin Ticket No.....

..... Date.....

..... Post Office.....

..... Head Kangany.....

..... Sub-Kangany.....

.....

Pay bearer..... Kangany

..... Cooly

Preliminary Advance Rupees.....

..... Son of..... age.....

..... Daughter.....

Rate per head on adults..... Caste..... Village.....

..... Taluk..... P. O.....

Do. on minors..... District..... Preliminary advance of

..... Rupees..... and a further advance

Agency..... of Rupees..... for every cooly he

..... she

The period of negotiability..... brings exclusive of rail fare and batta to the..... Agency

..... Superintendent.

..... * This should be sent to Head Office, Trichinopoly.

..... Superintendent. (Triplicate, which is the same as duplicate, is given to the kangany or cooly.)

MEMORANDUM.

- (a) The period for which the A. Form is negotiable.....
- (b) Rate per head to be paid for coolies under full working age Rs.....
- (c) Identification marks of the payee.....
-
-
- (d) Thumb mark and specimen signature of the payee.....

Thumb mark on Estate.

Thumb mark at Agency.

--	--

Specimen Signature

Superintendent.

(This form appears on back of Duplicate and Triplicate.)

NOTE.—The above new form is on the printers hands and will be issued to subscribers shortly.

A. FORM RULES.

The following rules have been framed for the protection of the constituents:—

1. The Duplicate A. Form should be filled in and forwarded to this office, if possible, at least 3 days in advance of the kangany or cooly coming over to the Coast to recruit.
2. No A. Forms will be honoured until the Head Office confirmation has been received at the Agency, which will be sent on arrival here of the Duplicates from the estates.
3. All A. Forms issued by Superintendents should have Thumb mark of the cooly or kangany to whom it is payable, and, if literate, his specimen signature on the back of the A. Form in the space at the left-hand side marked for the purpose.
4. All A. Forms after they have been honoured at the Agency at which they are payable will be retained there for future reference.
5. The Superintendent should endorse on the back of the A. Form the period for which the A. Form is negotiable.
6. The Superintendent must mention on the back of the A. Forms what rate per head should be paid for coolies under full working age.
7. A. Forms are not transferable.
8. A. Forms are for the use only of the estates to whom they are issued, and must not, under any circumstances, be transferred to another estate.
9. When an account is closed, any unused Form should be returned to this office and credit will be given for their value.
10. Only A. Forms issued by this Commission will be accepted.
11. Application for A. Forms should be made to the Ceylon Labour Commissioner, Trichinopoly, South India.
12. No A. Form in which the space for the amount of money to be given (either as preadvance or further advance) if left blank will be honoured. If no money is to be given a line should be drawn, or "Nil" written in the space.
13. If the coolies produced by kanganies for registration are open to doubt, my Agents are empowered to pay only half the advance per head, and the other half to be paid them on safe arrival of the suspected coolies at the Trichinopoly or Tataparai Depot, as the case may be.
14. In the absence of the instructions to the contrary, my Agents are empowered to reject medically unfit and non-agricultural coolies produced at my Agencies for registration and despatch to the estates.
15. There is no occasion to issue more than one A. Form for kangany or cooly.
16. Whilst taking all reasonable precautions against fraud being perpetrated with or without the connivance of the holders of A. Forms, this Commission cannot be held responsible for payments made to a wrong party.

(Signed) H. SCOBLE NICHOLSON,
Ceylon Labour Commissioner.

Trichinopoly.
V. A. S.

Tin ticket is not valid on the Indian Railways. No concession in fares is allowed. It takes currency only from the Ceylon Government Tataparai Camp.

PREADVANCE.

9. The granting of a large preadvance is neither necessary or desirable, except in special cases as the practice tends to undermine the good effect obtained by the reduction of the advance per head to Rs. 15 granted on registration of coolies.

On the other hand it is advisable to grant a small preadvance, as it ensures the attendance of the kangany at his nearest Agency for payment on arrival at the Coast, which facilitates supervision of his activities and report to the estate concerned. In no case it is necessary to give substantial advances on the estate prior to the kangany starting on his journeys as with the exception of his Ceylon

Government Railway fare and steamer passage, his expenditure incurred from Tuticorin to the Railway Station nearest to his village can be defrayed by the Commission on cards signed by the Superintendent giving authorization. These cards, as per specimen given (see "Exhibit D.") can be had from Ceylon Labour Commissioner, Trichinopoly, on application.

Should kanganies require advances in their villages, Officials can be sent out with funds for the purpose, but it is very rarely that the kangany is unable to attend at the nearest Agency and once the money has left the Agency, the Ceylon Labour Commission cannot be held responsible.

VALUATION.

Properties are valued and loans arranged if required by Estate Superintendents.

LEGAL.

Any legal business should be conducted through the Commission which has specially retained the most reliable Solicitors and Proctors for the purpose.

ESTATE DEFAULTERS (B. FORM.) (SEE "EXHIBIT E.")

10. Coolies who have come back to South India from the estates in Ceylon without discharging their debts are, on application, traced out and persuaded to return to the estate or repay their debts. When a Superintendent wishes this Commission to search for a defaulter, he should fill a "B. Form," as per specimen on page 14, and forward the duplicate of the form to the Commissioner's office at Trichinopoly, and the triplicate should be delivered to the kangany who comes to the Coast in search of the absconder. It must be understood, however, that any success obtained by this Commission is without recourse to law, and is entirely due to the influence of this Commission in the villages. An initial fee of Rs. 2 will be charged on each defaulting case and a further sum of Rs. 5 on each successful case. A special staff is employed to register and look after these cases and a report will be made as soon as possible.

WARRANTS.

When warrants are taken out in Ceylon for the arrest of defaulters in India, an affidavit should be carefully drawn up, stating the loss to the estate either in money or in breaking up a gang in the event of the defaulter not returning to Ceylon.

N.B.—Kanganies are on no account to give any Agent or peon a bonus for helping them to trace an defaulter or recover his debt.

CATERING ARRANGEMENTS.

11. Regular catering arrangements for kanganies and coolies are provided at the Trichinopoly Central Depot under the immediate superintendence of the Depot Superintendent. Small botiques are opened for the use of the kanganies and coolies. There is also a recognised feeding house in Tuticorin for the use of incoming kanganies and coolies under the superintendence of the Commissioner's Tataparai Agent and Tuticorin Jetty Agent. Facilities for feeding kanganies and coolies are also arranged in all out Agencies.

"EXHIBIT D."

10

A. Form No. *Estate.*

.....Estate.

Letter dated.....191...

.....191

The Agent,

CEYLON LABOUR COMMISSION,
Tuticorin.

To

The Madura Co., Ltd.,
Tuticorin.

DEAR SIR,

Please give the following Kanganies and coolies one meal each and pay rail-fare to their destination charging the cost of same to Estate account.

Yours faithfully,

Superintendent.

DEAR SIR,

Kindly assist the following Kanganies and coolies in rapid disembarkation and passing through the Customs Department at Tuticorin.

Yours faithfully,

Superintendeni.

MEDICAL AID.

12. There is a Dispensary opened in the Trichy Central Depot presided over by a duly qualified Medical Officer who attends to the wants of the kanganies and coolies. He also examines them as regards physical fitness for estate work before they are registered and despatched to the estate in Ceylon.

BRIBERY EXTORTION.

13. Superintendents should carefully impress upon **kanganies** and coolies that they should not submit to extortion or ill treatment in any form when passing through the Agencies or **Dépôts** of the Commission.

Large Notice Boards have been lately erected in all the Agencies and Depôts throughout the Commission painted in prominent vernacular type, they read as follows:—

Complaints as to extortion or ill-treatment of any kind should be promptly brought to the notice of the Commissioner either verbally or in writing or to the Assistant Commissioner of the Circle when they will receive prompt attention.

Postponement of the complaint until return to Ceylon adds considerably to the task of adjudication and minimising the evil. Complaints made direct to Superintendents should be forwarded at once to the Head Office, Trinchnopoly, and will receive prompt attention and enquiry. The

Commission is very anxious that every opportunity should be afforded him in the way of this information to enable him to protect the coolies effectively.

Agents and officials have been warned of the fact that the departure of the complainant for Ceylon is not sufficient to safeguard their position, but that if complaints from the estates are of a numerous and consistent nature thereby giving their Agency a bad name, their services will be dispensed with and more reliable men put in charge.

FINANCE.

Funds should be placed at the credit of the Planters' Association of Ceylon, Labour Agency No. 2 account at the Bank of Madras, Colombo. It is most important that Superintendents should keep their accounts in sufficient funds to avoid detention of coolies and extra cost of feeding.

CORRESPONDENCE.

All business correspondence should be addressed to the Ceylon Labour Commissioner, Trichinopoly, South India, and none direct to the Assistant Commissioners, the Accountants or the Agents.

GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS.

16. The books of the Ceylon Labour Commission at the Agencies are at all times open for the inspection of the Government Officials.

"EXHIBIT E."

B. FORM.

Estate.....
 Post Office.....
 Tin Ticket No.
 Head Kangany.....
 Sub-Kangan.....
 Date.....

DEFAULTER'S ADDRESS.

Name.....
 Age.....Sex.....Caste.....
 Father's Name.....
 Mother's Name.....
 Village.....Taluk.....
 Post Office.....District.....
 Unliquidated liability to the
 Estate.....
 Height.....Colour.....
 Distinguishing
 marks (if any) }
 General remarks. }

Superintendent.

No. DUPLICATE.

Estate.....Post Office.....
 Tin Ticket No.....Head Kangany.....
 Date.....Sub-Kangan.....

B. FORM.

DEFAULTER'S ADDRESS.

Name.....Age.....Sex.....Caste.....
 Father's Name.....Mother's Name.....Village.....
 Taluk.....Post Office.....District.....
 Unliquidated liability to the Estate.....Height.....Colour.....
 Distinguishing marks.....
 (if any) General remarks.....

Superintendent.

(This form is printed in English and Tamil. Triplicate same as Duplicate.)

(The following rules appear on back of each form.)

1. This form should be used when a request is made to trace out a defaulter and despatch him to the estate or recover his debt.
2. An initial fee of Rs. 2 will be charged on each defaulting case and a further sum of Rs. 5 on each successful case.
3. It is to be noted that the success in bolting cases entirely depends on the influence this Commission has in the villages; it has no legal powers to arrest a defaulter, nor has it any power to force a defaulter to return to the estate or repay his debts against his or her will.
4. Pro-notes evidencing the defaulter's liability should be pinned on with this form.
5. The duplicate and the triplicate forms should be duly filled in, the former handed to the kangany and the latter posted to this office at least three days before he starts to the Coast. In the case when a direct requisition is made, the duplicate and the triplicate forms should be filled in and posted to this office.
6. Owing to the difficulty experienced in recognising names of Villages, Taluks, Post Offices and Districts when transliterated into English, Superintendents are requested to have this information entered on "B" Forms in Tamil as well as English characters.
7. Particulars of enclosure should be given in full hereunder.

The Ceylon Labour Commission is at all times ready to assist in every way to trace and obtain the return of any offender, and to do the same in the case of a minor or a married woman who may have been taken to Ceylon without the necessary authority.

The elaborate form of registration of coolies is of great value to Government Officials to whom this Commission is always ready to give every assistance about coolies despatched to Ceylon through this Commission.

CENSUS REPORTS, 1911.

17. These reports contain names of villages, taluks, districts, population, area, &c., of the Madras Presidency. One set containing all the Recruiting Districts of the Madras Presidency. Price Rs. 30-0-0 per set.

POSTAL MAPS AND POSTAL GUIDE.

18. These maps contain all the Post Offices of India. One set containing maps of the districts of the Madras Presidency and Postal Guide. Price Rs. 6-0-0.

MAPS.

19. Useful maps giving full information about the recruiting districts can be obtained, on application, to the Ceylon Labour Commissioner, Trichinopoly.

RAILWAY TIME TABLE AND FARES.

20. The Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway and South Indian Railway Guides can be obtained, on application to this office. Price Annas two each. They contain mass of information and a map shewing their Railway lines.

NOTE.

21. Estates which have not yet joined the Coast Agency will find it to their advantage if they become subscribers to and use the Ceylon Labour Commission in South India.

LIST OF COMMISSION AGENCIES.

TAMIL AGENCIES.

TINNEVELLY DISTRICT.

Area 4,353 Square miles. Population 1,790,619. Language spoken, Tamil.

(1) TATAPARAI.—Twelve hours journey from Colombo by steamer, 10 miles from Tuticorin by rail. The office is located in the Government Depot itself. Rail fare from Tuticorin Station Rs. 0-1-9.

(2) TINNEVELLEY.—Thirty-seven miles from Tuticorin and the Headquarters to the District. The office is near the Tinnevely Bridge Railway Station, and is only 5 minutes' walk. Rail fare from Tuticorin Station Rs. 0-7-9.

MADURA DISTRICT.

Area 4,916 Square miles. Population 1,932,832. Language spoken, Tamil.

(3) MADURA.—Ninety-nine miles from Tuticorin and the Headquarters of the District. The office is located near Railway Station, and is only 5 minutes' walk. Rail fare from Tuticorin Station Rs. 1-1-0.

(4) DINDIGUL.—137 miles from Tuticorin and the Headquarters of the Deputy-Collector. The office is near the Railway Station, and only 5 minutes' walk. Rail fare from Tuticorin Station Rs. 1-7-0.

RAMNAD DISTRICT.

Area 4,834 Square miles. Population 1,658,453. Language spoken, Tamil.

(5) PAMBAN.—Eighteen hours journey by steamer from Colombo direct. The office is only 5 minutes' walk from the beach.

(6) TONDI.—Twenty-four hours journey by steamer from Colombo direct. The office is only 5 minutes' walk from the beach.

TRICHINOPOLY DISTRICT.

Area 4,935 Square miles. Population 2,017,029. Language spoken, Tamil.

(7) TRICHINOPOLY.—195 miles from Tuticorin, the Head of the Agency office is a quarter-of-an-hour's walk from Junction Station. The Commissioner, Accountant and Depot Superintendent reside here, and his office is close by to the Agency. Rail fare from Tuticorin Station Rs. 2-1-0.

(8) MUSIRI.—221 miles from Tuticorin, nearest Railway Station Kulitalai. During flood people have to cross the river Cauvery by boat to go over to Musiri from Kulitalai. The office is within 5 minutes' walk from the river bed. Rail fare from Tuticorin Station Rs. 2-6-0.

(9) TURAIYUR.—243 miles from Tuticorin and 28 miles from Trichy by road, no railway communication. Carts are always available. The office is located in the village Munsiff's house itself.

(10) KARUR.—243 miles from Tuticorin and 48 miles from Trichy. The office is located near Railway Station. Rail fare from Tuticorin Station Rs. 2-8-9.

(11) MANAPARAI.—172 miles from Tuticorin and 23 miles from Trichy. The office is located near Railway Station. Rail fare from Tuticorin Station Rs. 1-13-0.

(12) NAMAKAL.—243 miles from Tuticorin. Headquarters of the Deputy-Collector. Nearest Railway Station Karur. 22 miles from Karur by cart road. Rail fare from Tuticorin Station Rs. 2-8-9.

COIMBATORE DISTRICT.

Area 7,196 Square miles. Population 2,116,564. Language spoken, Tamil.

(13) ERODE.—283 miles from Tuticorin and 88 miles from Trichy. Headquarters of the Sub-Collector. The office is located near Konavaikal, and is only 5 minutes' walk from the Railway Station. Rail fare from Tuticorin Station Rs. 2-12-0.

SALEM DISTRICT.

Area 6,300 Square miles. Population 1,766,680. Language spoken, Tamil.

(14) SALEM.—320 miles from Tuticorin, 37 miles from Erode. The office is located in the town itself. The nearest Railway Station is Sooramangalam, 3 miles off. Jutkas are available near the Railway Station to take passengers to town. Headquarters of the Deputy-Commissioner in charge of Salem Circle. Rail fare from Tuticorin Station Rs. 3-1-0.

(15) ATUR.—320 miles from Tuticorin. Nearest Railway Station, Salem. 33 miles from Salem by cart road. Carts are always available.

(16) DHARMAPURI.—368 miles from Tuticorin. Headquarters of the Sub-Magistrate. Rail fare from Tuticorin Station Rs. 3-7-0.

(17) TIRUPATHUR.—390 miles from Tuticorin. Headquarters of the Sub-Magistrate. Rail fare from Tuticorin Station Rs. 3-10-0.

(18) JOLARPET.—395 miles from Tuticorin. Coolies from Bangalore are transhipped at this Station.

NORTH ARCOT DISTRICT.

Area 4,920 Square miles. Population 1,960,960. Language spoken, Tamil.

(19) KATPADI.—445 miles from Tuticorin and 100 miles from Villupuram. The office is on the other side of the Railway Station, and only 5 minutes' walk. Rail fare from Tuticorin Station Rs. 4-0-0.

(20) ARKONAM.—448 miles from Tuticorin, 70 miles from Madras and 39 miles from Chingleput. The office is located near Railway Station and only 3 minutes' walk. Rail fare from Tuticorin Station Rs. 4-1-0.

SOUTH ARCOT DISTRICT.

Area 4,208 Square miles. Population 2,362,566. Language spoken, Tamil.

(21) VILLUPURAM.—345 miles from Tuticorin. This is a Junction Station to change trains to Katpadi side. The office is located near Railway Station and only 3 minutes' walk. Rail fare from Tuticorin Station Rs. 3-4-0.

TANJORE DISTRICT.

Area 3,727 Square miles. Population 2,363,689. Language spoken, Tamil.

(22) TANJORE.—226 miles from Tuticorin and 31 miles from Trichinopoly. The office is located near Railway Station in a garden and only 3 minutes' walk. Rail fare from Tuticorin Station Rs. 2-5-0.

(23) AMMAPATANAM.—Thirty hours journey by steamer from Colombo direct. The office is located near beach.

CHINGLEPUT DISTRICT.

Area 3,072 miles. Population 1,406,008. Language spoken, Tamil.

(24) CHINGLEPUT.—409 miles from Tuticorin. Headquarters of the Sub-Collector and the Junction Station for Arkonam Branch. The office is located in the town, and only 10 minutes walk from Railway Station. Rail fare from Tuticorin Station Rs. 3-12-0.

PUDUCOTTAH STATE.

Area 1,178 miles. Population 411,886. Language spoken, Tamil.

(25) PUDUCOTTAH.—228 miles from Tuticorin and 32 miles from Trichy by road. There is a motor service a day. Cars are available always. The office is located opposite to Post Office. Rail fare from Tuticorin Station Rs. 2-1-0.

TELUGU AGENCIES.

CHITTOOR DISTRICT.

Area 5,676 miles. Population 1,238,742. Language spoken, Telugu.

(26) CHITTOOR.—464 miles from Tuticorin. Headquarters of the Assistant Commissioner in charge of Chittoor Circle. Rail fare from Tuticorin Station Rs. 4-4-9.

MADRAS DISTRICT.

Area 27 Square miles. Population 518,660. Language spoken, Telugu.

(27) MADRAS.—446 miles from Tuticorin, the presidency town, the third city in India. Telugu coolies are transhipped here. Rail fare from Tuticorin Station Rs. 4-0-0.

GODAVERI DISTRICT.

Area 6,221 Square miles. Population 1,652,859. Language spoken, Telugu.

(28) COCONADA.—848 miles from Tuticorin and 402 miles from Madras. The Headquarters of the District Administration and a Sea Port. The office is located on the right bank of the Godavari Channel in Jaganaickpuram. Rail fare from Tuticorin Station Rs. 9-3-9.

GUNTUR DISTRICT.

Area 5,735 Square miles. Population 1,697,551. Language spoken, Telugu.

(29) GUNTUR.—735 miles from Tuticorin, 288 miles from Madras and 20 miles from Bezwada. The office is located near the Railway Station. Rail fare from Tuticorin Station Rs. 7-11-0.

CUDDAPAH DISTRICT.

Area 5,892 Square miles. Population 893,998. Language spoken, Telugu.

(30) CUDDAPAH.—609 miles from Tuticorin and 119 miles from Arkonam. The office is located near Railway Station, and it is only 10 minutes' walk. Rail fare Rs. 5-4-9.

NELLORE DISTRICT.

Area 7,973 Square miles. Population 1,328,152. Language spoken, Telugu.

(31) NELLORE.—547 miles from Madras. The office is located within half-a-mile from the Railway Station. Rail fare from Tuticorin Station Rs. 5-7-0.

ANANTAPUR DISTRICT.

Area 6,718 Square miles. Population 963,223. Language spoken, Telugu.

(32) GUNTAKKAL.—723 miles from Tuticorin and 276 miles from Madras. The office is located near Railway Station. Rail fare from Tuticorin Station Rs. 6-7-9.

CANARESE AGENCIES.

MYSORE PROVINCE.

Area 4,128 Square miles. Population 1,227,061. Language spoken, Canarese.

(33) BANGALORE.—312 miles from Tuticorin and is the Administrative Capital of Mysore State. The office is located near the City Railway Station, and only 5 minutes' walk. Rail fare from Tuticorin Station Rs. 4-13-6.

DHARWAR DISTRICT (Bombay Presidency.)

(34) HUBLI.—603 miles from Tuticorin. Rail fare from Tuticorin Station Rs. 8-2-6. Language spoken, Canarese and Mahratta.

MALAYALAM AGENCIES.

MALABAR DISTRICT.

Area 5,794 Square miles. Population 3,015,119. Language spoken, Malayalam.

(35) PALGHAT.—376 miles from Tuticorin. Headquarters of the Assistant Commissioner in charge of Palghat Circle. Rail fare from Tuticorin Station Rs. 3-8-0.

(36) TIRUR.—427 miles from Tuticorin, is a Railway Station and also the Headquarters of the Sub-Magistrate. Rail fare from Tuticorin Station Rs. 3-14-0.

(37) CANNANORE.—508 miles from Tuticorin. Headquarters of the Sub-Magistrate. Rail fare from Tuticorin Station Rs. 4-8-0.

CIRCLES GIVING THE AGENCIES INCLUDED.		COMPARATIVE COOLY STATISTICS STATEMENT	
Trichinopoly Circle. Controlled from Headquarters.	Trichinopoly	Coolies despatched from all Agencies to end of	
	Musiri	December, 1905	... 41,461
	Suriam	" 1906	... 28,201
	Manapari	" 1907	... 22,159
	Pudacottah	" 1908	... 47,543
	Tangore	" 1909	... 35,704
Salem Circle. Controlled by Deputy Commissioner.	"	" 1910	... 64,809
	"	" 1911	... 72,549
	"	" 1912	... 93,925
	Salem		
	Attur		
	Dharampuri		406,351
Palghat Circle. Controlled by 1st Assistant Commissioner.	Serapathur	NUMBER OF COOLIES DESPATCHED FROM EACH DISTRICT DURING 1912:—	
	Namakal	1. Trichinopoly	... 43,001
	Bangalore	2. Madura	... 12,478
	Hubli	3. Tanjore	... 3,549
	Jolarpet. (Transporting Agency)	4. North Arcot (includes Telugus)	... 6,581
		5. Tinnevely	... 7,515
Chittoor Circle. Controlled by 2nd Assistant Commissioner.		6. Coimbatore	... 2,419
	Palghat	7. Telugu Districts Agencies	... 1,522
	Sirur	8. Salem	... 3,241
	Erode	9. South Arcot	... 4,421
	Karur	10. Chingleput (includes Telugus)...	... 3,812
	Dindigul	11. Mysore Province	... 448
Madura Circle. Controlled from Headquarters temporarily.	Cannanore	12. Puducottah	... 3,172
		13. Malabar District	... 1,443
	Chittoor	14. Dharwar (Bombay Presidency)	... 323
	Katpadi		93,925
	Arkonam	STATEMENT SHEWING DIFFERENT CASTE OF COOLIES DESPATCHED TO CEYLON • DURING 1912:—	
	Chingleput	Vellalas	... 7,428
Chittoor Circle. Controlled by 2nd Assistant Commissioner.	Villupuram	Kallas	... 6,249
	Coconada	Ambalakarans	... 25,552
	Cuddapah	Pariahs	... 26,124
	Guntur	Pallas	... 15,890
	Guntukal	Cobblers	... 5,623
	Nellore	Dhoby	... 1,720
Madura Circle. Controlled from Headquarters temporarily.	Madras. (Transporting Agency)	Canarese	... 669
		Telugus	... 1,931
	Madura	Malayalees	... 1,700
	Tinnevely	Mahomedans	... 1,039
	Tataparai		93,925
	Tondi		
	Pamban		
	Ammapatnam		

IMMIGRATION ACCOUNTS.

Total amount received to the credit of Immigration

Account in 1905...	460,433	0	0
" " " in 1906...	325,379	12	6
" " " in 1907...	325,917	8	1
" " " in 1908...	614,099	5	0
" " " in 1909...	655,809	5	9
" " " in 1910...	1,292,462	14	5
" " " in 1911...	1,448,018	11	11
" " " in 1912...	4,861,197	15	9
	<u>Rs. 9,983,318</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>5</u>

COOLY STATISTICS.

1. The Commission Cooly Returns for 1912	... 93,925
Government Returns for the same period	... 119,042
2. CORRESPONDENCE:—	
(a) Letters:—	
Inland:—	
Total No. of letters received over	... 21,200
Total No. of letters replied about	... 11,700
(b) Ceylon:—	
Total No. of letters received excluding	
A. Forms	... 7,345
Total No. of letters replied about	... 11,340

(c) Telegrams :—

Inland :—

Wires received ... 1,200

Wires despatched ... 1,360

(d) Ceylon :—

Wires received ... 1,100

Wires despatched ... 1,600

TOTAL NUMBER OF A. FORM KANGANIES

ARRIVED AT ALL AGENCIES FOR

ASSISTANCE ... 24,526.

January	...	1,190
February	...	1,902
March	...	3,237
April	...	2,897
May	...	2,239
June	...	2,130
July	...	2,101
August	...	2,108
September	...	2,295
October	...	1,798
November	...	1,219
December	...	1,410

24,526

BOLTING CASES IN 1912.

1. Total No. of bolters referred to the Commission to be traced ... 3,234
2. 174 bolters were secured and despatched to the estates whose debts amounted to ... Rs. 34,689-00
3. 514 bolters paid their debts amounting to ... " 8,957-00
4. 1912 bolters have given fresh bonds amounting to ... " 5,730-00
5. 278 bolters have promised to return to the estate or repay their debts shortly. ... Rs. 49,376-00

DISPOSALS.

6. 326 bolters are reported to have left for Penang, Singapore, etc.
 7. 158 bolters reported as dead.
 8. 502 bolters denied all liability to the estate, and there were no pronotes to prove their liabilities.
 9. 436 bolters could not be traced owing to the insufficient and incorrect addresses.
 10. 364 bolters could not be traced and identified without the aid of the kanganies.
 11. 290 bolters are still to be searched for and half finished.
- Total No. of miles travelled by the Agents and peons ... 45,387 miles

12. OVERSTAYED KANGANIES AND COOLIES IN 1912 :—

Total No. of cases referred to the Commission for assistance ... 435

250 kanganies and coolies were persuaded to return to the estate.

180 kanganies and coolies were traced out and they promised to return to the estates shortly.

Total No. of miles travelled by the Agents and peons ... 36,873 miles.

N.B.—It may interest subscribers to the Coast Agency Scheme to know that the following kanganies who absconded from their estates a year to three years ago were traced out and persuaded to return to estate.

ESTATE.	KANGANY.	DEBT.
		Rs. c.
1. Chesterford...	Ramaswamy	2,182 00
2. Dumbara ...	Rajagopal Reddy	2,141 20
3. Dalkeith ...	Veeran	1,068 66
4. Sunderland ...	Kadiravale	1,000 00
5. Chapelton ...	Savarimuthu	707 23
6. Wellington ...	Muniandy and Sellaie	580 00

TOTAL NUMBER OF COOLIES DESPATCHED TO THE VARIOUS DISTRICTS OF CEYLON IN 1912.

Alagala	...	368
Ambegamuwa	...	938
Badulla	...	2,939
Balangoda	...	1,701
Dikoya	...	4,850
Dikoya Lower	...	1,786
Dimbula	...	6,565
Dolosbage	...	1,438
Galagedara	...	310
Dumbara	...	375
Galle, including Ambalangoda, Elpitiya and Udugama	...	1,367
Hantane	...	795
Haputale	...	3,585
Haputale West	...	251
Hewaheta Lower	...	427
Hewaheta Upper	...	481
Hunasgeriya	...	246
Kadugannawa	...	614
Kalutara	...	9,971
Kegalla, including Polgahawela	...	3,341
Kelani Valley	...	18,567
Kelebokka	...	383
Knuckles	...	762
Kotmale	...	1,465
Kurunegala	...	1,284
Madulsima and Hewa Eliya	...	1,614
Maskeliya	...	3,293
Matale East and Laggala	...	1,555
Matale North	...	1,214
Matale South	...	453
Matale West	...	1,156

Maturata, including Kurunda		
Oya Valley ...	...	850
Medamahannuwara ...	...	166
Moneragala ...	...	577
Morawak Korale ...	...	922
New Galway or Wilson's		
Bungalow ...	...	179
Nilambe ...	...	724
Nitre Cave ...	...	76
Nuwara Eliya ...	...	1,023
Passara ...	...	1,098
Pundaluoya ...	...	703
Pussellawa ...	...	1,383
Rakwana ...	...	518
Ramboda ...	...	756
Rangalla ...	...	517
Ratnapura ...	...	8,238
Udapussellawa ...	...	1,177
Walapane Lower ...	...	22
Wattegama and Panwila ...	...	453
Yekdessa ...	...	349
Total ...	...	93,925

Ceylon Labour Commission,
Trichinopoly, 27th February, 1913.

THE SECRETARY,
Planters' Association of Ceylon,
Kandy.

Dear Sir,

I enclose herein for your information copy of a report received from my Deputy Commissioner, Salem Circle, about his camping during fortnight ending 15th February, 1913.

Yours faithfully,
(Signed) H. SOCBLE NICHOLSON,
Ceylon Labour Commissioner.

REPORT FOR FORTNIGHT ENDING 15TH FEBRUARY, 1913.

During the fortnight under review I have been in camp six days, during which time I have travelled:—By rail, 848 miles and by Motor cycle 6 miles. During which time I inspected the Hubli and Guntakal Agencies.

The two newly appointed Travelling Agents have, I am glad to be able to report, made energetic start and are doing good work in the Atur and Dharmapuri taluks of the Salem District.

I think it would be a good thing if the attention of Estate Superintendents was drawn to the advisability of their stocking Ragi in their estate kaddies for the use of coolies. During my Camping operations I have been going very closely into the question of the kind of food eaten by coolies in the villages, and I find that there is little or no rice eaten, practically all castes living on Ragi, and to a certain extent cholam and combu. The reason for this preference to a Ragi diet is twofold. The cheapness of Ragi as compared to Rice, and the fact that the coolies seem to think that Ragi is more sustaining. I feel certain that if estate coolies are given the option of a Ragi or Rice diet it will do a good deal towards popularising Ceylon among the cooly classes, and Ragi being much cheaper than Rice, this introduction should serve to lower the coolies cost of living in Ceylon, which at present compares very unfavourably with the cost of living in India.

These remarks will be found to apply equally to the districts not in my Circle.

(Signed) H. FARQUHARSON,
Deputy Commissioner.

Ceylon Labour Commission,
Trichinopoly, 12th March, 1913.

THE SECRETARY,
Planters' Association of Ceylon,
Kandy.

Dear Sir,

I enclose for your information copy of a report received from my Deputy Commissioner, Salem Circle, re his camping for the fortnight ending 28th February, 1913.

Yours faithfully,
(Signed) A. E. DONALDSON,
for Ceylon Labour Commissioner.
(Copy.)

REPORT FOR FORTNIGHT ENDING 28TH FEBRUARY, 1913.

During the fortnight under review I have been in camp six days, most of which time was spent in settling up with the late Hubli Agent. In addition I have inspected the Tirupathur and Jolarpet Agencies. During the fortnight I have travelled 849 miles by Rail and 18 miles by Motor.

My two Travelling Agents have during the month of February, travelled 460 miles, visited 182 villages, and looked up 11 recruiting kanganies. They have advertised Ceylon widely and done a lot of good in keeping Ceylon advised through me of the chances of recruiting in the areas in which they have been working.

I am inclined to think that too much importance is at present being attached to the effect of local crop conditions on recruiting prospects. It is the local cost of living that has the greatest effect on recruiting prospects, and, although the cost of living is, to a small extent, affected by local crop conditions, it is more largely controlled by influences outside the districts affected. That the price of foodstuffs has steadily risen is amply borne out by statistics, and there is little doubt that this rise in the price of foodstuffs is chiefly due to outside influence, such as foreign export, and not, as is generally thought, to local crop conditions.

The failure of otherwise of local crops may affect the price of food and consequently recruiting prospects to a small extent, but as a cause to an effect this is, in my opinion, not of great importance. I have no hesitation in saying that, even given very good crops in the coming season, the cost of living would not be appreciably lowered.

Of course local crops do temporarily affect recruiting, inasmuch as it is naturally difficult to induce coolies to emigrate at a time when they can obtain employment on the spot, but this forms only a temporary check to recruiting and as long therefore, as food prices remain high recruiting prospects will be good.

It only remains therefore for Ceylon to carry out an energetic advertising programme to attain success, always provided that the price of foodstuffs remains high.

(Signed) H. FARQUHARSON,
Deputy C. L. Commissioner.

5th March, 1913.

Ceylon Labour Commission,
Trichinopoly, 14th March, 1913.
THE SECRETARY,
Planters' Association of Ceylon,
Kandy.

RECRUITING PROSPECTS REPORTS.

Dear Sir,

I herewith forward for your information copy of reports received from the Deputy and Assistant Commissioners of Salem, Palghat, Chittoor and Madura Circles on Recruiting Prospects for the month of February, 1913. Report on Recruiting Prospects in Commissioner's Circle is also enclosed.

Yours faithfully,
(Signed) A. E. DONALDSON,
for Ceylon Labour Commissioner.

LIST OF ESTATES THAT HAVE CONTRIBUTED TO THE COAST AGENCY FOR 1912.

Estate.	Post Town.	Estate.	Post Town.	Estate.	Post Town.	Estate.	Post Town.
A.							
Attabage, Gampola		Ambadeniya Group, Kadu-		Bible, Lunugalla		Cabaragalla, Madulkelle	
Avisawella, Puwakpitiya		gannawa		Berragalla, Haputale		Caledonia, Lindula	
Annfield, Dikoya		Ambawella, Ambawella		Bellongalla, Kadugannawa		Clontarf, Neboda	
Agrawattie, Watawala		Attampetia, Bandarawella		Borgrove, Maskeliya		Clyde, Kalutara	
Aluwick, Udapussellawa		Ardlaw, Agrapatna		Blackwater, Nawalapitiya		Cruden Lower, Norwood	
Atgalle, Gampola		Agra Elbedde, Agrapatna		Bogawana, Bogawantalawa		Cleveland, Maskeliya	
Alton, Norwood		Ambanpitiya, Kegalle		Barnagalla, Nawalapitiya		Conning, Matale	
Andigama, Giriulla		Abbotsleigh, Hatton		Blair Avon, Norwood		Castlemilk, Gampola	
Arapolakanda, Tebuwana		Adawatte, Lunugalla		Braemore, Agrapatna		Carlabeck, Nanuoya	
Ambatenne, Neboda		Amblangoda, Lunugalla		Bunyan and Ovoca, Maskeliya		Chrystler's Farm, Kotagala	
Aberdeen, Watawala		Agra Oya, Watawala		Bombra, Urugala		Coodoogalla and Alluta,	
Agra Ouwah, Agrapatna		Acrawattie, Kotmale		Battalagalla, Dikoya		Kadugannawa	
Ambalamana, Galaha		Alliawattie, Moneragala		Beauvais, Haputale		Cattarem, Dolosbage	
Ambanganga, Matale		Arambeena, Kudaganga R.		Batgodde, Haldummulla		Clodagh, Matale	
Aludeniya, Dehiowita		O., Neboda		Blackwood Haputale		Cranley, Upper and Lower,	
Ardross, Yatiyantota		Allupolla Group, Ratnapura		Berat, Dikoya		Lindula	
Agra, Lindula		Abercainey, Dikoya		Bowhill, Nawalapitiya		Cranley, Lindula	
Atherfield, Avisawella		Ampitiakande and Arnhall,		Ballagalla Ella, Bandarawella		Clara, Puwakpitiya	
Angroowella, Uddispattu		Bandarawella		Blair Athol, Dikoya		Chapelton, Bogawantalawa	
Aldie, Bogawantalawa		Atalawa, Ruanwella		Beaconsfield, Norwood		Coldstream, Hatton	
Arandara, Kegalle		Ashbourne, Nawalapitiya		Bandara Eliya, Haputale		Craig, Badarawela	
Atale, Ruwanwella		Auchry, Matale		Bridwell, Bogawantalawa		Coombeewood, Talawakele	
Alpha, Balangoda		Ampitykoda, Bandarawella		Berry Hill, Yatiyantota		Cecilton, Pinnawala, R. O.	
Aigburth, Rakwana		Atuwagalla, Elpitiya, Galle		Balantota Group, Nawala-		Cley, Neboda	
Abergeldie, including Hether-				pitiya			
ton, Hatton		B.		Beddewelle, Kadugannawa		D.	
Alpitiakande, Gampola		Baddegama, Madulkele		C.		Dalhousie, Maskeliya	
Akramboda Group, Maha-		Brae Group, Madulkele		Coreen Talawakele		Doone Vale, Nakiadeniya	
wella R. O., Matale		Brownlow, Maskeliya		Choisy, Punduloya		Dunedin, Yatiyantota	
Arslena, Nawalapitiya		Bon Accord, Bogawantalawa		Carolina No. 1, Watawala		Dewalakande, Dehiowita	
Ayagoda, Ratnapura		Bogahawatte, Kotagala		Do „ 2, do		Doombagastalawa, Kotmale	
Ancoombra, Matale		Balmoral, Agrapatna		Concordia, Kandapola		Dromoland, Gammoduwa	
Agrakanda, Lindula		Burnside Group, Udispattu		Court Lodge, do		Denegama, Bogawantalawa	
Ankande, Matale		Bin Oya, Rozella		Coolbawn, Nawalapitiya		Densworth, Dehiowita	
Amherst and Kadawatte,		Brunswick, Maskeliya		Condegalla, Ramboda		Dunkeld, Dikoya	
Udapussellawa		Battawatte, Madulsima		Estate. Post Town.		Dea Ella, Galagedera	
Allakolla, Madulkele		Ballecadua, Matale		Calsay, Nanuoya		Deanstone, Rangala	
Arrattenne, do		Ballagalla, Badulla		Clunes, Dehiowita		Dammeria, Passara	
Allagalla and Dekanda,		Beverley, Deniyaya		Campion, Bogawantalawa		Drayton, Kotagala	
Kadugannawa		Blinkbonnie, Dikoya		Cotteganga, Rangala		Dunally, Galaha	
Alcoowihare Group, Matale		Bathford Dikoya		Coslande, Haputale		Debatgama, Aranayaka	
Alma, including Grey Mont		Bandarapola, Matale		Carney, Ratnapura		Doteloya, Dolosbage	
and Leangawella, Maturata		Bollagalla, Kandy		Culloden, Neboda		Digdola, Nakiadeniya	
Aboyne, Bentota		Bridgend, Nawalapitiya		Chesterford, Ruanwella		Deaculla, Koslande	
Angodde, Badulla		Bramley, Maturata		Cuilcagh, Neboda		Devonford, Bogawantalawa	
Argyll, Kotagala		Bellwood, Galaha		Campden Hill, Deniyaya		Donnybrook, Hatton	
Annandale, Maskeliya		Beau Sejour, Nakiadeniya		Craigie Lea, Kotagala		Dessford, Nanuoya	
Adam's Peak, do		Brookside, Kandapola		Carfax, Hatton		Dambatenne Group, Hapu-	
Ayr, Padukka		Bogawantalawa, Bogawan-		Craighead, Nawalapitiya		tale	
Albion, Lindula		talawa		Callander, Ohiya		Derryclare, Kotagala	
Anningkanda, Deniyaya		Bamtrakelly, Lindula		Castlereagh, Dikoya		Dangan Lower, Matale	
Abbotsford, Nanuoya		Bargany and Fairlawn, Mas-		Cullen, Badulla		Degelessa, Yatiyantota	
Ascot, Gampola		keliya		Colombia, Hewabeta		Dover, do	
Avoca, Nanuoya		Beaumont, Pussellawa		Cobo, Badulla		Delta, Pussellawa	
Allakollawewe and Donachie,		Broughton, Bandarawella		Clarendon, Nanuoya		Dangkande, Rattota	
Maturata		Bearwell, Talawakele		Cocagalla Group, Madulsima		Darrawella, Hikoya	
Avington, Yatiyantota		Belgravia, Talawakele		Cattaratenne, Rattota		Delmar, Udapussellawa	
		Benachie, Watawala				Dambalagolla, Dolosbage	

Estate.	Post Town.	Estate.	Post Town.	Estate.	Post Town.	Estate.	Post Town.
Dedugalla do		Ellagolla, Rattota		Glassel, Dehiowita		Hethersett & Denmark Hill,	
Del Hena, Matale		Emelina, Maskeliya		Gonagama and Kitulgala,		Kandapola	
Dangan, do		Eagle's Land, Neboda		Kitulgala		Hanwella, Padukka	
Devon, Talawakele		Eel Teb, Passara		Galata, Gampola		Humbaswalana, Ruanwella	
Doragalla Group, Pussellawa		Elfindale, Watawala		Glen Devon, Halgranoya		Houpe, Pelmadulla	
Doolgalla, Yatiyantota		Elgin and Kelley Hill,		Gonavy, Deltota		Hope, Hewaheta	
Dunbar, Hatton		Lindula		Glenalla, Dolosbage		Hayes, Deniyaya	
Deniyaya, Deniyaya		Eduragalla, Horana		Goonambil, Wategama		High Forest, Maturata	
Daisy Valley, Kurunegala		Ellakanda, do		Gorthie, Dikoya		Halgranoya, Halgranoya	
Diyagama, Agrapatna		Elston, Puwakpitiya		Greymont, Maturata		Hauteville, Agrapatna	
Digowa, Yatiyantota		Eltofts, Bogawantalawa		Glentilt, Maskeliya		Hunasgeria Group, Wate	
Doonhinda, Madulsima		Ederapolla, Yatiyantota		Gonawella, Rangala		gama	
Dell, The Lindula		Eskdale, Kandapolla		Girindi Ella, do		Hindagalla Group, Badulla	
Dunedin, Madulsima		Ellawatte, Bandarawella		Gallella, Maturata		Holmwood, Agrapatna	
Delwita Group, Kurunegala		Ettrick, Haldummulla		Gowerakella, Demodera		Hemmingford, Avissawella	
Dalkeith Group, Matugama		Elmhurst, Badulla		Gracelyn, Udupussellawa		Halpe, Padukka	
Dickella, Kegalle		Ettapolla, Matale		Great Western, Talawakele		Horawala, Matugama	
Dehiowita, Dehiowita				Galpitiakande, Namunukula		Heatherley, Neboda	
Detenagalla, Bogawantalawa				Gallantenne, Galaha		Hattangalla, Neboda	
Dambagastalawa, Nanuoya				Gallawatte, Matugama		Horagoda, Matugama	
Durampitiya, Avisawella				Glenugie, Maskeliya		Hyndford, Nawalapitiya	
Dambagalla, Nawalapitiya				Glengariff, Hatton		Horagalla, Dolosbage	
Dorset, Kalutara				Galkandawatte, Talawakele		Harrow, Pundaluoya	
Dalleagles, Dolosbage				Glenrhos, Neboda		Havilland, Dolosbage	
Dimbula, Kotagala				Gartmore, Maskeliya		Helbodge, Pussellawa	
Deenaya, Koslande				Gampolawatte, Gampola		Higgoda, Undugoda	
Dickapitiya, Haputale				Geragama, Peradeniya		Hoolaganga, Madulkele	
Dunsinane, Punduloya				Gangawatte and Bitterne,		Hapugahalande, Matale	
Doranakanda, Puwakpitiya				Maskeliya		Heatherton, Watawala	
Duhallow, Ratnapura				Gonakelle Group, Passara		Heidri, Rozella	
Dehigolla, Rangala				Glenlock Group, Pussellawa		Hagalla, Madulkele	
Deyanila, Madulkele				Gonakelle, Kandapola		Hantana, Kandy	
Duckwari, Rangala				Gonapitiya do		Hindagalla and Shrub's Hill,	
Digalla, Dehiowita				Glencairn, Norwood		Peradeniya	
Deltota, Galaha				Gowravilla, do		Holbrook, Lindula	
Deysbrook, Lunugala				Goleconda, Haputale		Henfold and St. Regulas,	
Dikoya, Dikoya				Glenanore, do		Lindula	
Diyani-la-kele, Lindula				Gordon, Udupussellawa		Hangranoya, Nawalapitiya	
Dickwella, Badulla				Gona Adika, Gampola		Hewagama, Padukka	
Diagalla, Ruanwella				Goorooluella, Ukuwella		Hatale, Wategama	
Denmark, Ulapane				Glencorse, Puwakpitiya		Hinguruwatte, Matale	
Dumbara, Ingiriya				Glen Esk, Avisawella		Hylton, Matale	
				Glenorchy, Nuwara Eliya		Hopton, Lunugala	
				Gillbury, Wategama		Harrington, Kotagala	
				Galgawatte, Elkaduwa		Haputale and Sherwood,	
				Gonamotava, Haputale		Haputale	
				Gallebodda, Galboda		Hoonocotua, Kotmale	
				Geddes, Maskeliya		Hillside, Galle	
				Gingranoya, Kotmale		Haloya, Peradeniya	
				Goomera, Madulkele		Hatherleigh and Dalveen,	
				Greenwood, Nawalapitiya		Rakwana	
				Galboda, Ratnapura		Handford, Deniyaya	
				Galkadua, do		Hathmatte, Ruanwella	
				Glenfern Group, Nawalapitiya		Hingurugama, Badulla	
				Gamewella, Passara		Hapurugalla, Ratnapura	
				Gallinda, Mapalagama		Hunugalla, Elkaduwa	
				Gidawa, Wategama		Hatbawa Gp., Rumbukkana	
						Hare Park, Rangala	
						Halgolla Group, Yatiyantota	
						Hornsey, including Aber-	
						cairney, Dikoya	
						Halwatura, Ingiriya	

F.

Friedland and St. Vigeans,
Bogawantalawa
Fernlands, Punduloya
Freshwater, Agrapatna
Frotoft, Ramboda
Ferriby, Puwakpitiya
Frocester, Neboda
Fairfield, Lindula
Farnham, Avisawella
Ferham, Talawakele
Faithlie, Kotagala
Forres and Warburton, Mas-
keliya
Fetteresso, Bogawantalawa
Fordyce Group, Dikoya
Fairfield, Polgahawela
Forest Hill, Matale

G.

Golinda, Kegalle
Glentaffe, Hatton
Goatfell, Kandapolla
Glenlyon, Agrapatna
Ganapella, Yatiyantota
Glasgow, Agrapatana
Gampaha, Udupussellawa
Gammaduwa Group, Gam-
maduwa
Gikiyanakanda, Neboda
Gavatenne, Panwila
Galaha, Galaha
Goorookella, Galaha
Glassaugh, Nanuoya
Glen Alpine, Badulla
Graham's Land do
Galatura Group, Ratnapura
Godahena, Kalutara
Gallamudena, Dolosbage
Gowinna, Neboda
Gangwarilly, Dolosbage
Goolshane Ally, Padukka
Goorookoya, Nawalapitiya

H.

Handrookande, Kurunegala
Hartfield, Gampola
Hooloo Group, Madulkele

Estate.	Post Town.	Estate.	Post Town.	Estate.	Post Town.	Estate.	Post Town.
Hardenhuish, Watawala		Kiribatgalla & Dela Group, Ratnapura		Lanmermoor and Galawatte, Watawala		Mahacoodagalla, Kandapolla	
Harrangalla and Tellisagalla, Kotmale		Keenapitiya, Koslande		Laxapanagalla, Watawala		Malaboda, Matugama	
Hatton, Hatton		Kincora, Norwood		Lynsted, Bogawantalawa		Mahaberiatenne, Teldeniya	
Hatdraganga, Ratnapura		Knightsdale and Longford, Wattagama		Lansdowne, Ratnapura		Mipitiakande, Yatiyantota	
Hunugalla, Undugoda		Kottagallakelle, Hatton		Lauderdale, Rakwana		Marie Land, Madulkele	
Hinwerella, Mawanella		Keenagaha Ella, Bogawantalawa		Liddesdale, Halgranoya		Meepilawa, Puwakpitiya	
Hunuwella, Pelmadulla		Kurugama, Peradeniya		Laxapana, Maskeliya		Morar, Bogawantalawa	
Hethersett, Kandapolla		Kottegodde, Peradeniya		Lippakelle, Lindula		Mahatenne, Elkaduwa	
Hollingbourne, Bentota		Kellie Group, Dolosbage		Lyndhurst, Avisawella		Mandolagirikande, Wattagama	
I.		Keenagalla, Maturata		Lyndford, Bogawantalawa		Marabenne, Pinnawella R. O.	
Ingoya, Watawala		Kirkoswald, Bogawantalawa		Labugama, Waga		Maharajah, Matale	
Ingurugalla, Aranayaka		Kotunnagalla, Avisawella		Loolowatte, Rangala		Mirisketiya, Urugala	
Illubuluwa, Ratnapura		Kintyre, Maskeliya		Logie, Talwakele		Madawala, Matale	
Imbulpitiya and Holnicot, Nawalapitiya		Kepitiagalla, Matale		Lavant and Ekkioya, Yatiyantota		Meneriagama, Padukka	
Igalkande, Elpitiya		Kinlock, Dikoya		Lindoola, Talawakele		Murraythwaite, Padukka	
Indurana, Ruanwella		Kotungedera, Matale		Landscape, Matugama		Madulkelle, Madulkele	
Invery and Waterloo, Dikoya		Kinross, Bandarawella		Lagalla, Rattota		Maymolly, Pussellawa	
Ingestre, Dikoya		Kudaganga Rubber Company, Neboda		Ladbroke, Maskeliya		Mousakellie, Maskeliya	
Ives, Yatiyantota		Kandalaoaya, Dolosbage		M.		Middleton and Talankande Lindula	
Iona, Agrapatna		Kalugama, Peradeniya		Mount Vernon, Kotagala		Minna, Norwood	
Ireby, Norwood		Kiriporuwa, Yatiyantota		Mousa Ella, Lindula		Mincing Lane, Norwood	
Indian Walk, Nakiadeniya		Kabragalla, Maturata		Mooloya, Hewaheta		Mousagalla, Matale	
K.		Kirimettia, Galaha		Meddekanda, Balangoda		Meegama, Wattagama	
Karagahatenne, Gammaduwa		Kataboola, Kotmale		Mudumana, Kitulgala		Maturata Group, Kandapola	
Kahagalla, Haputale		Knavesmire, Undugoda		Mawatte, Kochchikade		Maha Eliya, Nanuoya	
Kellewatte, Kotagala		Kahawatte, Matale		Mariawatte, Gampola		Mentenne, including Wihare-tanne, Haputale	
Kadawella, Watawala		Kew, Norwood		Matale West, Matale		Macduff, Lindula	
Kanangama, Yatiyantota		Katugastota, Katugastota		Meddecombra, Watagoda		Manikanda, Dehiowita	
Kadien Lena, Kotmale		Karandana, Avisawella		Morali Oya, Ruanwella		Mahagodda, Bentota	
Kirimettia, Kadugannawa		Kelani, Yatiyantota		Midlothian, Maskeliya		Maskeliya, Maskeliya	
Kumaradola, Moneragalla		Kolapatna, Kotmale		Mottingham, Maskeliya		Mocha, Maskeliya	
Kumbukkan, Moneragalla		Kituldeniya, Handessa		Mutwagalla, Ratnapura		Mahagalla, Norwood	
Keenakella, Badulla		Kanampalla, Kosgama		Massena, Balangoda		Monte Christo, Nawalapitiya	
Kobonella, Rangala		Kalupane, Undugoda		Maha Uva, Halgranoya		Maddakelle, Madulkele	
Killarney, Bogawantalawa		Kanangama, Dehiowita		Mousakande, Matale		Madampe, Rakwana	
Kirklees, Udupussellawa		Kitulwitigalla, Elpitiya		Mousakelle, Deltota		Maskeloya, Dolosbage	
Kensington and Forest Hill Matale		Kiriwanaketiya, Neboda		Morankande, Galagedara		Monerakande, Koslande	
Kitoolamoola, Galaha		Kandenewera, Matale		Maousava, Galagedara		Marakona, Ukuwella	
Kelbourne, Haputale		L.		Muwankande, Kurunegala		Maryland, Aranayake	
Kalupahana, Horana		Labookellie, Ramboda		Mahaousa, Madulkele		Milligatenne, Aranayake	
Kellebokka, Madulkele		Lethenty Tea Estates Association, Ltd., Hatton		Miriswatte, Haputale		Maria, Lindula	
Katooloya, Madulkele		Le Vallon, Galaha		Millawana, Matale		Mornington, Agrapatna	
Kosgalla, Ratnapura		Luccombe, Maskeliya		Melfort, Pussellawa		Moneragalla Group, Moneragalla	
Kandapolla, Kandapola		Lassahena, Dehiowita		Meddetenne, Punduloya		Mahadova, Madulsima	
Kowlahena and Canon, Lindula		Langdale, Nanuoya		Mora Ella, Wattagama		Marambakande, Avisawella	
Kaipogalla, Punduloya		Lantern Hill, Gampola		Matale, Matale		Mahawala, Ratnapura	
Koswana, Matale		Loinorn, Bogawantalawa		Matale, Neboda		Mahagastota, Nuwara Eliya	
Kotiagalla, Bogawantalawa		Lebanon Group, Madulkele		Meegama, Neboda		Middlemarch, Kandy	
Kanana, Bentota		Lauriston, Maturata		Mossville Group, Dolosbage		Mount Temple, Gampola	
Kinnersley, Neboda		Longville, Rattota		Meenagolla and Galamudena, Dolosbage		Mandara Nuwara, Maturata	
Knuckles Group, Madulkele		Lochnagar, Matale		Melton, Lindula		Mattakelle and Cairness, Talawakele	
Kalooogalla, Pussellawa		Looecondara, Deltota		Moragalla, Badulla		Midland Group, Nawalapitiya	
Kondesalle, Kandy		Lanark, Rakwana		Monerakelle, Moneragalla		Mayfield, Hatton	
Kalupahane, Haldumulla		Leangawella, Maturata		Madola, Neboda		Maldeniya, Dehiowita	
Kanapediwatte, Ulapane		Lanka, Maskeliya		Maddagedera, Bentota		Markville, Undugoda	
Kuda Oya, Hatton		Lonach, Watawala		Millakande, Neboda		Moray, Maskeliya	
				Meeriabedde, Koslande		Meegastenne, Matale	
				Malwasawa, Dehiowita			
				Macaldeniya, Koslande			

[illegible]

Estate.	Post Town.	Estate.	Post Town.	Estate.	Post Town.	Estate.	Post Town.
Stathspey, Maskeliya		Thotulagalla, Haputale		V.		West Haputale, Ohiya	
Sunnycroft, Ruanwella		Tilbrick, Mahawale R. O.		Vellai Oya, Hatton		Wariagalla, Kandy	
Stinsford, Ruanwella		Talipotence, Haputale		Vincit, Ruanwella		Winchfield Park, Rangala	
Stafford, Halgranoya		Tamaravelly, Nawalapitiya		Vedehetta, Galaha		West Fassifern, Lindula	
Sorana Gp., Horana		Talawakelle Gp., Talawakelle		Vellehinda, Yatiyantota		Waragalanda, Madulkele	
Singarawatte, Bograwantalawa		Taprobana, Kotagalla		Vogan, Neboda		Walton, Moneragalla	
Suriakande, Maskeliya		Tientsin, Bogawantalawa		Venture, Norwood		Wewebedde, Madulsima	
Sutton, Agrapatna		Tudugalla Gp., Neboda		Verellapatna, Madulsima		Wattakelly, Madulkele	
Sunderland, Ratnapura		Troup, Talawakele		Verulupitiya, Puwakpitiya		Woodlands, Watawala	
St-Leonard's, Halgranoya		Theberton, Watawala				Wavahena and Pinehill, Pun-	
Sapumalkande and Illuktenne		Talagalla, Homagama		W.		duloya	
Dehiowita		Taldua, Avisawella		Welgampola, Ratnapura		Weemalle, Aranayake	
Sarnia Group, Badulla		Troy, Ruanwella		Warakamura, Matale		Weveketiya, Ratnapura	
St. John Del Rey, Norwood		The Farm, Kadugannawa		Weygalla, Elkaduwa		Wawulugala, Horana	
Stockholm, Norwood		Tallankande, Lindula		Wattegodde, Watagoda		Westmoreland, Badulla	
Sunderland, Ratnapura		Torrington and Helbeck, Agra-		Wigton, Watawala		Wellington, Hatton	
Sirikandura, Neboda		patna		Wallaba, Lindula		Weniwella, Allauwa	
Sirisanda, Puwakpitiya		Tonacombe Gp., Namunukula		Waverley, Agrapatna		Weywelwatte, Ratnapura	
Sangubar, Gampola		Tembiligalla, Ulapane		West Holyrood, Talawakele		Welewala Mukalana, Balan-	
Swinton, Lunugala		Tulloes, Udupussellawa		Wevekelie, Namunukula		goda	
Somerset, Talawakele		Theydon Bois, Nawalapitiya		Wangie Oya, Talawakele		Woodthorpe, Katugastota	
Strathdon, Hatton		Templestowe and Inchyria,		Walpolu, Dehiowita		Westhall Group, Kotmale	
Selgama, Matale		Rozella		We Oya, Yatiyantota		Wewelmadda, Matale	
Springwood, Rakwana		Tismoda Gp., Kadugannawa		Wellangalla, Yatiyantota		Waldemar Gp., Halgranoya	
St. Andrew's, Talawakele		Talgaswella, Mapalagama		Warwick, Ambawela		Walauwawatte, Kudaganga	
Sunmerville, Dikoya		Tavalamtenne, Ramboda		Weddemulla and Camnethan,		R. O., Neboda	
Strathisla, Matale		The C. W. M., Talawakele		Ramboda		Wattemulla, Halgranoya	
St. Aubin's, Watawala		Trafford Hill, Galagedera		Waltrim, Lindula		Y.	
St. Fergus, Polgahawela				Wiharegama, Matale		Ythanside, Kotagala	
St. Clive, Nawalapitiya		U.		Wagga, Waga		Yellabenda, Kotmale	
Stokesland, Udugama		Udapolla, Polgahawela		Windsor Forest, Dolosbage		Yoxford, Talawakele	
Sirinidula, Serupita Kalutara		Udapollakanda, Polgahawela		Waharaka, Undugoda		Yakwilla, Kurunegala	
Seaton, Maturata		Uda Radella, Nanuoya		Watawella, Rozella		Yataderia Tea Co. of Ceylon,	
Stratheden, Demodera		Urakanda, Kegalle		Woodend, Dehiowita		Ltd., Undugoda	
Sittawaka, Avisawella		Ury Group, Badulla		Wanarajah, Dikoya		Yogama, Dehiowita	
		Urumiwella, Ruanwella		Wattapulluwa, Kandy		Yelan Mallai, Matale	
T.		Udasgeria, Ukuwella		Wootton, Kotagala		Yelverton, Badulla	
Tillicoultry, Lindula		Ugieside, Undugoda		Weragalla, Yatiyantota		Yahalaenne, Kandy	
Tunisgala, Rangala		Ukuwela and Jalingamadda,		Waitalawa, Urugala		Yatipawa, Horana	
Tyspane, Kotmale		Ukuwela		Wewessa, Badulla		Yattawatte, Matale	
Tillyrie, Dikoya		Unugalla, Badulla		Wallawa, Balangoda		Yaha Ella, Puwakpitiya	
Tangakelle, Lindula		Uva, Madulsima		Whyddon, Pussellawa		Yatadola, Neboda	
Thornfield, Agrapatna		Udaveria, Ohiya		Weywelhena, Demodera		Yapane and Kinagoda, Lunu-	
Talpitigalla, Badulla		Uvakellie, Madulsima		Wiharegalla, Haputale		gala	
Tempo, Neboda		Udapolla, Dehiowita		Warleigh, Dikoya		Yellangowry, Aranayake	
Telbedde, Badulla		Udahage, Yatiyantota		Wariapolla, Matale		Yuillefield, Hatton	
				Weyweltalawa, Galboda		Estate. Post Town.	

MONTHLY REPORT ON RECRUITING PROSPECTS FOR MARCH, 1913.

District.	Taluq.	Crop Prospects.	Local Wages.		Recruiting Prospects.	Remarks.
			Men.	Women.		
			Annas.	Annas.		
Madura	{ Dindigul ... Palani ... }	Fair	5	3 to 4	Good	154 coolies registered in February, 1913. In February, 1912, 90 registered.
					(Signed) G. S. DUPEN, Asst. C. L. Commissioner. 7th March, 1913.	
Malabar	{ Chirakal ... Kottayam ... Kurumbranad ... }	The crops were good.	4 to 5	2 to 0-2-6	Good	Coolies can always be procured from N. Malabar, provided good kanganies go there.
					(Signed) G. S. DUPEN, Asst. C. L. Commissioner.	
Malabar	{ Palghat ... Walawanad ... Calicut ... Chirakal ... Fonani ... Kottayam ... Ernad ... Kurumbranad ... }	Crops have been good.	4 to 5	2 to 0-2-6 (the latter wage only in a few places.)	Fair, but will not be good until the monsoon months, viz. June, July and August.	
					(Signed) G. S. DUPEN, Asst. C. L. Commissioner.	
Coimbatore	{ Erode ... Bhavani ... Palladam ... Gobichettypoliam ... Satyamangalam ... Peria Dharmapuram ... Avanashi ... Udamalpet ... Pollachi ... Kollegal ... }	The crops have been fair.	3 to 4	0-2-6 & 2	Not good until the harvest is over.	
					(Signed) G. S. DUPEN, Asst. C. L. Commissioner.	
Trichinopoly	{ Karur ... }	The crops have been fair.	4	2½	Not good at present as the harvesting is still going on.	
Coimbatore	{ Dharapuram ... }				(Signed) G. S. DUPEN, Asst. C. L. Commissioner.	
Chittoor	{ Chittoor ... Kalabasti ... Karvatnagar ... Palmanair ... Vayalpad ... Madamapalli ... Punganur ... Chandragiri ... }	{ Paddy & Ragi Good, Cumboo Fair Paddy, Ragi & Cumboo Fair do Paddy & Ragi Good Cumboo Fair Cumboo Fair Cholam, Paddy Cumboo Fair do }	4 to 2	2 to 3	{ Fair do do do Bad do Indifferent do }	{ The tanks here are drying up much sooner than I expected. The first crops have been good and the transplanting of a fair second crop is now going on in parts. Prospects of recruiting will be enormously improved next month.

MONTHLY REPORT ON RECRUITING PROSPECTS FOR FEBRUARY, 1913.
TELUGU DISTRICTS.

District.	Talug.	Crop Prospects.	Local Wages.		Recruiting Prospects.	Remarks.
			Men.	Women.		
			Annas.	Annas.		
Tamil Districts.						
North Arcot...	Arcot	... Paddy & Ragi			Indifferent	The crops have been excellent, and a second crop is coming on. There has however been no rain to speak of since November.
	Vellore	... do	4 annas		Good	
	Gudiyatam	... do	per day		do	
	Walaja	... do			do	
	Polur	... do		2 annas	Indifferent	
	Tirupatur	... do		per day	Good	
	Arni	... do		with food	Bad	
	Tiruvannamalai	Paddy, Ragi			Indifferent	
		Tobacco,			Bad	
		Paddy				
Chingleput	Wandiwash	... and Ragi				In Chingleput the people seem to be fairly prosperous this year. Still, recruiting goes on largely as usual.
	Arkonam	... Good	4 to 5	2 to 3	Fair	
	Cheygar	... Good			do	
	Chingleput	...				
	Saidapet	...				
	Ponneri	...				
	Madurantakam	...				
	Conjeeveram	...				
	Tiruvallur	...				
		Good	4 to 6	2½ to 3½	Fair	
Vizagapatam	Ankapalla	... Kumboo-cholam	4	3	Fair	More efforts should be made to recruit in this district. There is undoubtedly labour to be had and now is the time to begin to recruit here.
	Yelamanchi	... do	do	do	do	
	Vizianagaram	... Ragi, cholam	do	do	do	
	Chuparapalle	... paddy	do	do	do	
	Besmanpatam	...				
	Gajapatipuram	...				
	Palconda	... Ragi, cholam				
	Bobile	... and paddy				
	Parvatipuram	...				
		...				
Godavari	Peddapur	... Paddy is extensively grown,	6	3		Recruiting in this district is not very promising. Lack of local rain scarcely affects the people here; they have plenty of irrigation.
	Ramachandrapur	... cumboo here				
	Analapur	... and there				
	Tuni	... Paddy extensively grown,	6	3	Fair	
	Coconada	... cumboo here				
	Pithapuram	... and there				
	Rajmundry	...				
		...				
Guntur	Guntur	... Cholam and cumboo	4 to 5	3 to 4	Indifferent	The crops in Guntur District are now nearly all in and efforts should be made to recruit here at once. The cotton crop, upon which the people largely depend, has been bad this year, and now is a very promising time to open up this new district.
	Sattanapalli	... Good	do	do	do	
	Narasrowpet	... do	do	do	do	
	Venuhonda	... do	do	do	do	
	Gurizala	... do	do	do	do	
	Renali	... Paddy good	do	do	do	
	Bapatla	... do	2 to 3	1½ to 2	do	
	Repally	... do	do	do	do	
		...				

MONTHLY REPORT ON RECRUITING PROSPECTS FOR FEBRUARY, 1913.

District.	Taluk.	Crop Prospects.	Local Wages.		Recruiting Prospects.	Remarks.
			Men.	Women.		
			Annas.	Annas.		
Nellore	Nellore	... Paddy, ragi &	4 to 6	2½ to 3	Bad	Another month must pass before good results can be expected from this district.
	Sullurpet	... cotton, paddy			Fair	
	Vengatagiri	... do	3½	2½	do	
	Kovur	... Paddy, rehar-vesting	do	do	do	
	Kavali	... Paddy and indigo	3½	2½	do	
	Atmakur	... Paddy and cotton	4	3	Bad	
	Udayagiri	... do	do	do	do	
	Kandakur	... Paddy, ragi & cotton	3½	2½	do	
	Raipur	... Paddy, cholam	4	3	do	
		... cotton	3½	2½	Fair	
	Karigiri	... do	do	do	do	
	Podhili	... do	do	do	do	
	Dharsi	... Cholam and cotton	do	do	do	
	Gudur	... Paddy, cholam tobacco rehar-vesting	do	do	do	
Cuddapah			4	3	Bad	
	Cuddapah	... Indifferent	4	2	Bad	Next month prospects should be very much better here.
	Pulivandla	... do	3	2	do	
	Kamapuram	... do	do	do	do	
	Roychoty	... do	...	...	...
	Sidhoat	... do	3	2	Good	
	Badvel	... do	...	...	do	
	Proddatur	... do	6	2	Bad	
Salem Circle.	Jammalandga	... do	3	2	Moderate	
	Salem	... Fair	4	2	Fair	Most of the harvesting is now over, and coolies may be expected from now onwards in good number.
	Omair	... ..	...	...	...
	Uttankur	... ..	...	...	Good	
	Hosur	... ..	...	...	...
	Krishnegiri	... Bad	3	1½ to 2	...	
	Trichengoda	... ..	...	...	...
	Dharmapuri	... ..	...	...	...
	Atur	... ..	...	...	...
	Trichinopoly	Namakal ... Fair	4	2	Good	
Dindigul	Chittoor	Tirupathur ... Fair	4	2	Fair	do
Bombay Presidency						

(Signed) J. H. RUTHERFORD LEE,
Asst. L. Commissioner.

MONTHLY REPORT ON RECRUITING PROSPECTS FOR FEBRUARY, 1913.

District.	Taluk.	Crop Prospects	Local Wages.		Recruiting Prospects.	Remarks.
			Men.	Women.		
			Annas.	Annas.		
Bellary	{ Bellary ...	Fair	3	2	Fair	do
	{ Royadroog ...	...	...	...	...
	{ Adoni ...	...	...	...	...
	{ Hospet ...	...	...	...	...	do
Anantapur	{ Anantapur ...	Fair	3	2	Fair	
	{ Dharmavaram ...	...	...	...	...	do
	{ Gooty ...	...	...	...	...
	{ Tadpatri ...	...	...	...	...
Mysore	{ Bangalore ...	Fair	4	2	Fair	
	{ Mysore ...	...	...	...	...
	{ Kolar ...	...	...	...	...
	{ Tumkur ...	Fair	4	2	Fair	do
	{ Hassam ...	...	...	...	Bad	
	{ Shumoga ...	...	...	...	Fair	do
	{ Kadur ...	...	...	...	Bad	
{ Chitaldroog ...	...	...	...	...
Note.—The recruiting season may now be said to be in full swing and recruiting prospects in this Circle generally speaking, are good.						
(Signed.) H. FARQUHARSON, Deputy Commissioner.						
Madura	{ Melur ...	Good	4 to 6	2 to 4	Fair	In spite of the crops the Recruiting Prospects are generally good.
	{ Madura ...					
	{ Periakulam ...					
	{ Nelakottah ...					
	{ Tirumangalam ...					
Rannad	{ Tirupathur ...	Fair	4	2½ to 3	Fair	do
	{ Sivaganga ...					
	{ Rannad ...					
	{ Paramagudi ...					
	{ Tirupuvanam ...					
	{ Mana Madura ...					
Tinnevelly	{ Koilpatti ...	Good	5	4	Fair	do
	{ Tiruchandur ...					
	{ Srivikonda ...					
	{ Sangarankoil ...					
Trichy Circle.						
Trichy	{ Musiri ...	Fair	4 to 6	2 to 3	Fair	Crops are being harvested and coolies find sufficient local labour.
	{ Perambalore ...					
	{ Kulitalai ...					
Tanjore	{ Tanjore ...	Fair	4	3	Fair	Crops in this district is in a fair condition and coolies find sufficient local labour.
	{ Kumbakonam ...					
	{ Mayaveram ...					
	{ Shially ...					
	{ Negapatam ...					
	{ Papanasam ...					
	{ Tiruthurai pundi ...					
	{ Mannargudi ...					
Puducottah State	{ Tirumayam ...	Fair	4 to 5	2 to 3	Fair	Dry crops are being harvested and coolies find sufficient labour.
	{ Alangudi ...					
	{ Kolathur ...					

Ceylon Labour Commission,
Trichinopoly, 22nd February, 1913.

THE SECRETARY,
Planters' Association of Ceylon,
Kandy.

MALAYALAM COOLIES.

Dear Sir,
I append below copy of report received from my Tirur Agent for your information.

"I have the honour to inform you that since I am distributing the notices coolies come to my Agency."

"I can do nothing but send them away, as there are no kangannies present at my Agency."

Yours faithfully,
(Signed) W. FERGUSON,
for Ceylon Labour Commissioner.

Kandy, 25th February, 1913

THE CEYLON LABOUR COMMISSIONER,
Trichinopoly.

MALAYALAM COOLIES.

Dear Sir,
I write to acknowledge receipt of yours of the 22nd instant. No. 1,882/C. 1., re above subject, contents of which are noted.

Yours faithfully,
Secretary, P. A. of Ceylon

Ceylon Labour Commission,
Trichinopoly, 25th February, 1913.

THE SECRETARY,
Planters' Association of Ceylon,
Kandy.

TIRUR AGENCY.

Dear Sir,
I enclose for your information copy of a Report dated 22nd instant received from my Assistant Commissioner, Palghat Circle about Tirur Agency.

Yours faithfully,
(Signed) H. SCOBLE NICHOLSON,
Ceylon Labour Commissioner.

Tirur Agency,
22nd February, 1913.

Dear Sir,

The Tirur Agent has sent me a copy of a letter in which he says that since he has been distributing notices coolies come to his Agency, but he can only send them away as there are no kangannies at his Agency. It is a great pity that kangannies will not go to this Agency, as there are coolies to be got in the surrounding taluks, and they are of the right agricultural class. This Agency has not had a chance to register coolies owing to the want of kangannies. Whilst on the subject of kangannies I may mention that it is extremely difficult to find out where these men do go, I invariably ask at the different villages that I halt at if there are any kangannies there, but I do not find them even when their names are on my register. The truth is that they still hang about the different agencies and let professional recruiters bring them coolies. Estate Superintendents cannot be too particular about the class of kanganny they select to recruit.

Yours faithfully,
(Signed) G. S. DUPEN,
Assistant C. L. Commissioner.

Ceylon Labour Commission,
Trichinopoly, 8th March, 1913.

THE SECRETARY,
Planters' Association of Ceylon,
Kandy.

Dear Sir,

I enclose for your information copy of a descriptive report on the Cheruman castes in Malabar received from the Assistant Commissioner in charge of Palghat Circle.

Yours faithfully,
(Signed) H. SCOBLE NICHOLSON,
Ceylon Labour Commissioner.

DESCRIPTION OF DIFFERENT CASTES IN MALABAR.

THE CHERUMANS.

The lowest caste of cooly that goes to Ceylon from Malabar is the Cheruman, he is really an agricultural serf and considered an inferior to other castes, they are really educated. They are said to be divided into thirty-nine divisions, but whether these divisions are different castes or not I cannot tell, some of them are considered much lower than others, and are not allowed to eat or marry with those belonging to a higher division.

Besides working in the fields they make mats and baskets. It is said that at one time they owned land, and it is believed that they were ruled by a sort of a King.

At one time at about the beginning of the British rule in India it was discovered that the Cherumans were held as slaves attached to soil, on which they worked and sold with the land, Government put a stop to this, it is known that a woman has been sold for Rs. 3-8-0 and a child for Rs. 1-10-6.

A Cherumar cannot approach a Brahmin village or temple, and if he meets people of a superior caste he must stand at least thirty feet from them, he is allowed to beg, but not allowed to come near the person from whom he solicits alms, so it will often be observed that a Cherumar will sit in a field, having spread a dirty piece of cloth on the side of the road for passers-by to put money on.

They are really very harmless people and trained to work well in the fields.

As regards their religion they worship certain Gods, who are represented by rude stone images, they have priests, whom they respect very much. It is a common belief among them that one may kill provided that it is done for good.

They have festivals from time to time, one important one being the *Pooram Vela*, which is held at the village temple; all castes below Brahmins attend this festival, after a sumptuous feast they all join in a procession with weird wooden horses and other quaint devices, they follow dancing and singing. There is another festival called the *Vitru Idukka*, this one consists in bringing paddy seeds to the temple. It is impossible to describe all these festivals, but there is another called the *Mandalam Vilakku* (this being forty-one days festival), during which the temples are illuminated day and night. There are also several smaller festivals. One of their peculiarities is that if they see two animals fighting or meet a man with a bundle of clothes, or a cat crosses their path it is considered bad luck. They also keep a rattle, which is freely used to keep off evil spirits. They are very staunch to each other, adultery is looked on as a most awful crime, a woman is punished for disobedience to her husband, they have one very cruel rite for punishing offenders, the precise nature of which has never been discovered.

As a people they are rather short of stature, well made and dark skinned. Cherumans are very often to be seen sitting outside toddy shops. Their chief food is rice and cunjee water.

(Signed) G. S. DUPEN,

Asst. Ceylon Labour Commissioner.

5th March, 1913.

Ceylon Labour Commission,
Trichinopoly, 8th March, 1913.
THE SECRETARY,
Planters' Association of Ceylon,
Kandy.
CAMPING REPORT.

Dear Sir,

I enclose for your information copy of Camping Report received from my Assistant Commissioner, Palghat Circle.

Yours faithfully,

(Signed) H. SCOBLE NICHOLSON,
Ceylon Labour Commissioner

FEBRUARY CAMP.

I left Palghat by the mail train at 2.43 p.m. arriving at Erode at 7 p.m.

14th February, 1913.—I went to the Erode Agency in the morning and arranged about my halting places, and also interviewed the kangany who were there, amongst them I found one Kitnan kangany of Nivitigalla Estate, whom I had last seen at the Palghat Agency, where he had been loafing about for several days, I had told him not to hang about the Palghat Agency, but see if he could not recruit some coolies, he recruited an old estate cooly, whom he knew to be a bogus one, took him as far as Erode and allowed him to bolt. He evidently intended to trick the Erode Agent in the same way, but, unfortunately for him, I saw him.

15th February, 1913.—I remained at Erode and sent my samman on to Bhavani. I had a long interview with the Erode Agent about matters connected with his Agency.

16th February, 1913.—I left for Bhavani by Motor Cycle, a distance of 9 miles. On the way I stopped at three villages and distributed notices, the names of two of the villages are Peria Aghaharam and Suriyampoliam. A fairly large crowd gathered in the large village. On my arrival at Bhavani, I interviewed the Sheristidar Magistrate, he gave me the following information, price of rice high, being 3 Madras measures to the rupee, the crops have not been good, prospects of recruiting in Bhavani are not good, apparently there is work for all here and the wages are good.

17th February, 1913.—I remained at Bhavani. I motored out to villages seven miles from Bhavani on the Andiyur Road. Total distance run 14 miles. I stopped at Paravachi and Totipoliam villages, also at another small village, distributed a lot of notices both to people in the villages and to likely-looking people I met on the road. The inhabitants of Totipoliam village were a particularly needy-looking lot.

18th February, 1913.—Motored from Bhavani to Perundurai, a distance of 12 miles. Stopped at Sithodu village and another called Nasayanur. On my making enquiries about kangany a Penang recruiter turned up, these men are in nearly every village, much more so than our own Ceylon men. The same thing happened at Bhavani, I could not find the men who were registered in my Kangany Register, but a professional recruiter came to the bungalow.

19th February, 1913.—I remained at Perundurai. Interviewed the village Monegar. He told me that the crops had been good, price of rice still high, local wages Annas 3 to 5 for men, Annas 0.2-6 for women. He says that very few coolies go from Perundurai to Ceylon, but I have discovered that these village headmen do not know all that goes on in their villages. In the evening I motored to a village called Chenamalli, eight miles from Perundurai stopped at the following villages Kollatapalayam, Pidarayoo,

and another small village, at one of the villages I met the schoolmaster, who told me that none of the villagers had ever been to Ceylon, I gave a lot of notices.

20th February, 1913.—Motored from Perundurai to Avanasi, I had intended stopping at a place called Chengapalli, but found the bungalow under repair, so had to go on to the next camp. Stopped at Chengapalli, Viziamangalam and Perumanellur and distributed notices.

21st February, 1913.—Remained at Avanasi. Interviewed the village Monegar one Soobramaniam, a rather useless sort of person as regards the information that he gave me. The crops were all good, except cholam, price of rice high, local wages men Annas 5, women 0.2-6. I found a kangany in this town, report on him has already been sent in. The Monegar told me there were no kangany in Avanasi.

In the evening I motored seven miles down the Tirupathur Road, distributed notices at all the villages en route and passers-by.

22nd February, 1913.—Remained at Avanasi. Motored out 7 miles to a village called Sevoor, distributed notices there and also at a village called Valapalayam and Perimulloor.

23rd February, 1913.—Avanasi to Coimbatore, distance 24 miles. Stopped at Nartakampara, Karmuthampatti, Tennampalayam, Nilambur and another village, found the villagers in some of the villages most dense, none of them being able to read Tamil, though in most of the villages there is generally some one who reads the notices aloud.

24th February, 1913.—Remained at Coimbatore. Attended to my office work. I had a large number of notices distributed. Coimbatore is a large and important town.

25th February, 1913.—Motored from Coimbatore to Walliar, a distance of 16 miles. Stopped at Madukkarai, Ettimadu and Kanthekoundensalai and distributed notices. Two miles of the road was dreadful, but the triumph managed to get through all right.

26th February, 1913.—Motored from Walliar to Palghat over a very bad road. Stopped at Kanjikod and Chulimuday villages and distributed notices, these villages have a mixed population of Malayalees and Tamils.

(Signed) G. S. DUPEN,
Asst. C. L. C.

3rd March, 1913.

Total distance travelled by Train	...	92 miles
Do do do by Road	...	160 miles

Total mileage... 232 miles.

REMARKS ON MY CAMP.

During these months a great number of the people are engaged in working in the fields, consequently emigration is not very much to the force, that is one reason for my being unable to discover kangany in the villages, the some places I was told that they were expected to arrive.

During this camp I must have circularised many notices on new ground, and some in contact with coolies who have never heard of Ceylon, many were very keen to have the notices read to them when they could not read them, a woman would bring up her son telling me he could read if she could not, and many questions were asked, and some men came to the bungalow for notice. I could give away more notices than I do, as I have lately thought

that, besides delivering the notices at the villages, it is a good thing to give a notice to a party of coolies along the many roads over which I motor, in this way a cooly hears of Ceylon for the first time, it is quite a common thing for me to motor away leaving a party of coolies reading a notice with interest, they carry the notice to some out-of-the-way village, to which it is impossible for me to go, I may mention here that it would be a good thing for Assistant Commissioners later on to camp at villages off the beaten track, this could be done if tents were provided, tents are, of course, a big initial expense and, of course, there is still much to be done in villages where there are bungalows, but it struck me the other day when I motored one evening away from the ordinary roads to several out-of-the-way villages, where there were crowds of people anxious to hear about Ceylon, that it would be a good thing if I could stop a day at some of these villages. Tents would enable me to do so, though one much prefers to halt at the bungalows.

Coimbatore is a big town and my going there and distributing notices must lead to some good. The collector of the district has granted me permission to halt at the Forest and P. W. D. bungalows. Tents would be absolutely useless in the monsoon in Malabar, in fact a motor bicycle cannot be used very much in Malabar during the monsoon months, but, having the Coimbatore and N. Madura Districts in my Circle, I can always camp in these parts during these months.

(Signed) G. S. DUPEN,
3rd March, 1913. Asst. Ceylon Labour Commissioner.
Ceylon Labour Commission,
Trichinopoly, 12th March, 1913.

THE SECRETARY,
Planters' Association of Ceylon, Kandy.
HUBLI AGENCY.

Dear Sir,
I have to inform you that I have dismissed the late Agent at Hubli for incompetency, and as I find a difficulty in getting a suitable man for the place, and as this Agency is used only by kangannies from two estates, the small support accorded does not justify me in maintaining an Agency at Hubli. I have therefore decided to close it, and have made suitable arrangements for the kangannies and coolies who were using Hubli Agency to be attended to by my Agency at Guntakal.

Yours faithfully,
(Signed) A. E. DONALDSON,
for Ceylon Labour Commissioner.
Ceylon Labour Commission,
Trichinopoly, 21st February, 1913.

THE SECRETARY,
Planters' Association of Ceylon,
Kandy.

Dear Sir,
I append below for your information an extract from a letter received from my Agent at Cuddapah.

"The harvest season is almost over. Though produce is fair, yet the ryots are selling grains very dear. Many of the ryots have stocked grains in their houses, without selling them, as they expect a famine in the current year. This, as well as the high prices of grains sold, roused the poorer classes and are committing murders decoities and house-breaking during day time only.

Within the last few months, nearly 45 murders were committed in Proddatur and Jammalanadu taluks. The poorer classes suffer very much on account of well-to-do, selfish ryots.

Much more I request you to inform Ceylon Estates, who got Telugu coolies that are natives of Cuddapah District to send them here with orders. For want of kangannies, the progress in this Agency is very slow."

Yours faithfully,
(Signed) H. SCOBLE NICHOLSON,
Ceylon Labour Commissioner.

Ceylon Labour Commission,
Trichinopoly, 12th March, 1913.

THE SECRETARY,
Planters' Association of Ceylon,
Kandy.

EUROPEAN RECRUITERS & ESTATE SUPERINTENDENTS.
Dear Sir,

I enclose for your information copy of a letter dated 9th instant received from my Assistant Commissioner in charge of Chittoor Circle on the above subject.

Yours faithfully,
(Signed) A. E. DONALDSON,
for Ceylon Labour Commissioner.
Chittoor, 9th March, 1913.

(Copy.)

THE CEYLON LABOUR COMMISSIONER,
Trichinopoly.

EUROPEAN RECRUITERS AND ESTATE SUPERINTENDENTS.
Dear Sir,

I am in receipt of your letter of the 7th instant in regard to the above and note its contents.

I am very glad to note that a large number of Estate Superintendents are coming over this year to recruit. I shall always be ready to give them all the assistance in my power, and hope they will all find time to visit me in Chittoor if I happen to be in Headquarters.

Superintendents who are about to try to form Telegu connections should always be ready for a little initial disappointment, but I am sure that once connections are formed there will be no difficulty in keeping them up. Those who come over here will understand this, but it may be difficult to convince the Firm in Ceylon that a little preliminary outlay is necessary.

I hope a large amount of work will be done this year in opening up these new districts, which I am sure will become a valuable asset to rubber planters especially.

Yours faithfully,
(Signed) J. H. RUTHERFORD LEE,
Assistant Commissioner.

COMMITTEE OF AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENTS.

Minutes of a meeting of the Committee of Agricultural Experiments held at the Experiment Station, Peradeniya, at 3 p.m. on March 13th, 1913.

Present:—The Director of Agriculture (in the chair), the Government Mycologist, Messrs. A. Bruce, F. H. Layard, N. W. Davies, G. H. Gollidge, W. Coombe, H. D. Garrick, R. G. Coombe, L. L. Wilkins, J. D. Vanderstraaten, the Superintendent, Experiment Station, Peradeniya, Secretary, and Messrs. J. Fraser, H. A. Beachcroft, John Still and J. A. Campbell as visitors.

Papers tabled:—The Progress Report of the Peradeniya Experiment Station, and the monthly statement of accounts.

Minutes of the previous meeting of the 9th January last, were read and confirmed.

The Chairman made reference to the proposed trial grounds and said that it was proposed to have 3 trial grounds instead of two. The trials would be at first confined to growing trees and the planting of coconuts will be undertaken later on. A plot of 24 acres of bearing coconuts had been offered by Mr. N. J. Martin of Chilaw, and application would be made to reserve a piece of Crown forest land near Chilaw for planting experiments.

Mr. F. Beven had offered 25 acres of young coconuts at Veyangoda. At a conference held at the Galle Kachcheri on the 7th a number of land owners offered coconut plantations for a trial ground. Mr. Harbord will proceed there to select 2 or 3 of the most suitable, and a final selection of them will then be made by the Director.

The Chairman read the correspondence between himself, the Chamber of Commerce, the Hon'ble Mr. Rosling and the Director of the Imperial Institute with regard to Professor Dunstan's visit to Ceylon in connection with the Rubber Research Scheme. As Professor Dunstan is not coming to Ceylon at present as was expected, representations had been made that a specialist should be sent out at once and a beginning made.

A long discussion followed in which the Chairman, Messrs. W. Coombe, R. G. Coombe, Gollidge, Layard, Davies, Fraser and Campbell took part.

It was decided that a meeting of the Rubber Research Committee should be called to arrange the plan of work in Ceylon; that the research work should, if possible, include the investigation of Hevea cortex to determine the effects of tapping on the translocation of food materials; that the Rubber Growers' Association be approached with a view to amalgamation.

3. Mr. Petch stated the facts as at present known that tend to negative the idea that Hevea burrs are caused by any insect or fungus.

4. The Chairman referred to correspondence between the Director of Agriculture, the Colonial Secretary, the Government Mycologist and the Secretary of the Planters' Association as regards proclaiming Hevea Canker under the Plant Pests Ordinance. Mr. Petch described how the spread of Canker is prevented.

The terms of the proposed proclamation were agreed upon.

5. The Chairman explained the correspondence that had been referred to him on the question of Shot-Hole Borer in tea. Several members stated Shot-Hole Borer was much more prevalent than was supposed, and expressed the opinion that under the terms of the Ordinance its spread could not be effectively controlled.

It was resolved that the question of amending the Ordinance be discussed at the next meeting.

6. Bad Jat Tea.—Mr. Wilkins said that he is carrying out experiments, and would submit results at a later meeting.

7. The Chairman said that he had invited the Manure Firms of Colombo to send representatives to the meetings if they wished, and they had expressed themselves as desirous of doing so.

8. Report on Tea Experiments.—Mr. Davies said that Mr. Bamber had his records of Manurial Experiments. As the report had not been received from Mr. Bamber it was resolved to write to him to send it.

9. A discussion took place as to the beneficial results of manuring rubber, and Mr. Fraser expressed his opinion that the dominant ingredient for Hevea was nitrogen. On being asked whether nitrogen did not induce leaf growth at expense of latex he said this was not his experience.

10. Mr. Petch informed the Committee that the experiments with sterilized manures were proceeding.

11. The Chairman said that Mr. Rutherford, the new Government Entomologist to succeed Mr. Green, left England on the 8th instant and should be here at beginning of next month.

12. The Chairman said that Messrs. Whitall & Co. on behalf of Messrs. Dunlop had applied for some Wickham hard cure, and he had replied that he would let them have some, provided Messrs. Dunlop took corresponding quantity of crepe from Peradeniya for parallel trials and send him a

report for publication. He was awaiting reply. Mr. Fraser enquired whether the Wickham Machine could be used on a large scale and received a reply from the Chairman in the affirmative.

13. The Chairman referred to an enquiry made by a pressman and asked the opinion of the Committee as to advisability of admitting reporters at meetings. Messrs. Gollidge, Davies, Still, Layard, Beachcroft and Coombe offered remarks.

On the suggestion of Mr. R. G. Coombe it was resolved that the Superintendent of the Experiment Station be asked to record full minutes of the meetings to be sent to the press as preferable to admitting reporters. These could be published in the Tropical Agriculturist and the *Planters' Gazette*.

14. Programme for planting up 20 acres newly opened land was discussed next, and it was decided that half should be planted with selected trees 20 x 20, and a half 20 x 10. The holing to be done by dynamiting leaving a control plot of one acre between every 4 acres, wherein holes were prepared in the ordinary way.

15. The Chairman invited proposals as to the planting up of a 3-acre plot cleared of old cacao; several crops such as Indigo, Cacao and Coconuts were suggested, but not approved. It was resolved to conduct rubber spacing experiments, planting trees in pairs 4 feet apart, 30 feet dividing the pairs.

16. Mr. Gollidge asked whether a new labour-saving holing tool, a boring screw, could be experimented with at Peradeniya, and it was resolved to procure one.

17. As regards erecting tea machinery at the Experiment Station the Committee thought that it was an unnecessary expenditure, and the price obtained for leaves was considered satisfactory.

18. The Chairman announced that Messrs. Freudenberg & Co. have offered manures free of cost for the proposed coconut trials. It was resolved to accept the offer with thanks.

19. The Chairman read a letter received from Mr. Edmund Grigson of Kadugannawa re Acme rubber cup supports. The Committee thought that the price of Rs. 30 per 1,000 was prohibitive. Trials will be made with these cup supports at the Experiment Station.

(Signed) D. S. CORLETT,

Secretary,

Committee of Agricultural Experiments.

Peradeniya, 17th March, 1913.

Proprietors' Labour Federation of Ceylon.

— NOTICE. —

All orders for Proprietors' Labour Federation Tundu books should be sent direct to the Secretary, and not to Printers, who have no authority to issue or print these copyrighted forms.

PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION COMMITTEE.

LAST FRIDAY'S MEETING.

Minutes of proceedings of a meeting of the Committee of the Planters' Association of Ceylon, held at Kandy, on Friday, the 14th March, 1913, at 2-30 p.m.

Present:—Mr. F. H. Layard (Chairman, P.A. of Ceylon), Hon. Mr. Edward Rosling (Kandy), Messrs. H. Scoble Nicholson (Ceylon Labour Commissioner, Trichinopoly), H. M. Picken (Pussellawa P.A.), W. H. Murray (Pussellawa P.A.), G. C. Bliss (Kandy), R. Huyshe Eliot (Dikoya P.A.), H. F. Laycock (Dikoya P.A.), L. C. Maudsley (Dikoya P.A.), H. Gordon Griffin (Hon. Secretary, Dikoya P.A.), A. M. Carmichael (Kelani Valley P.A.), R. H. Villiers (Hon. Secretary, Kelani Valley P.A.), Fred. S. Elson (Hon. Secretary, Kotmale P.A.), L. A. Ewart (Chairman and Hon. Secretary, Hewaheta P.A.), Jackson Smale (Chairman, Kegalle P.A.), Geo. Benzie (Chairman, Pussellawa P.A.), G. H. Golledge (Chairman, Kalutara P.A.), William Gibson (Haputale P.A.), H. G. Eccles (Chairman, Dikoya P.A.), H. Storey (Kandy), H. S. Cameron (Hon. Secretary, Matale P.A.), A. Thorp (Chairman, Matale P.A.), E. H. Mellor (visitor), S. P. Blackmore (Ambegamuwa P.A.), E. G. Wood (Hewaheta, P.A., visitor), P. J. M. Box (Knuckles, Kellebokka and Panwila P.A.), T. Y. Wright (Chairman, Knuckles, Kellebokka and Panwila P.A.), J. Hall Brown (Chairman, Rangala P.A.), H. D. Garrick (Matale P.A.), J. P. Hortin (Knuckles, Kellebokka and Panwila P.A.), J. G. Napier (Knuckles, Kellebokka and Panwila P.A.), N. W. Davies (Nuwara Eliya Districts P.A.), F. M. Mackwood (Kandy), F. E. Henderson (Hon. Secretary, Kandy Districts P.A.), C. C. du Pre Moore (Chairman, Kandy Districts P.A.), P. R. Shand (Kandy), R. G. Coombe (Haputale P.A.), Sir Geo. A. Pilkington, Kt. (Southport, England, visitor), Messrs. Joseph Fraser (Kandy), W. Coombe (Kandy), A. Lee Simpson (Kandy Districts P.A.), Ed. W. Keith (Kandy Districts P.A.), D. A. Steele (Matale P.A.), Wallace R. Westland (Kandy), D. J. Blyth (Pussellawa P.A.), P. C. MacMahon (Woodside, Urugala), P. P. C. Walker (Hon. Secretary, Pussellawa P.A.), Douglas Westland (visitor), G. L. H. Doudney (Hon. Secretary, Knuckles, Kellebokka and Panwila P.A.), and John Still (Secretary, P.A. of Ceylon).—46 members and 4 visitors.

The notice calling the meeting was read.

The minutes of proceedings of a meeting of the Committee of the Planters' Association of Ceylon, held at Kandy, on Friday, the 14th February, 1913, were submitted for confirmation.

Resolved:—"That they be and they hereby are confirmed."

MEMBERS OF COMMITTEE.

Submitted letters and telegrams regretting inability to be present at meeting from Messrs. J. L. Tancock, A. H. Hamilton Harding, A. J. Austin Dickson, J. R. Neale, Tom Hyatt, W. H. Biddulph, Hew Kennedy, G. H. Masfield, J. R. Barkley, J. L. Hyde, H. Inglis, A. A. Bowie, Martin M. Smith, and M. L. Wilkins.

Read letter from the Chamber of Commerce notifying that the following members had been nominated to represent the Chamber on the following Committees:—Planters' Association and Labour and Coast Agency Committees—Messrs. Wm. Moir (Chairman, Chamber of Commerce), J. Lachore, (Vice-Chairman, Chamber of Commerce), T. L.

Villiers, W. Shakspeare, W. G. Macvicar, E. Turner, G. Lionel Cox, F. M. Mackwood, and the Hon. Mr. W. H. Figg. Thirty Committee—Messrs. Wm. Moir, Jas. Lochore, W. G. Macvicar, and G. Lionel Cox.

DISTRICT ASSOCIATIONS.

Read letter from the Kelani Valley P.A. re the necessity of establishing a District Court at Avisawella.

Resolved:—"That the Hon. Secretary of the Kelani Valley District P.A. be requested to prepare a statement of facts tending to prove the necessity for this Court, and to forward the same to the Secretary, Planters' Association."

Read a letter from the Kandy District P.A. forwarding a resolution urging the necessity of appointing more Veterinary Surgeons and Inspectors. It was explained by the Hon. the Rural Member that this increase in the veterinary staff is now being made.

NEW YORK RUBBER EXHIBITION.

Resolved:—"That this Association gratefully appreciates the services rendered by Mr. F. Crossie Roles in his capacity as Ceylon Commissioner at the New York Rubber Exhibition and records a hearty vote of thanks for the same."

MOTOR TRANSPORT.

Read the following letter from the General Manager, Ceylon Government Railway:—

Ceylon Government Railway,
General Manager's Office,
Colombo, March 12th, 1913.

MOTOR VAN FOR HEAVY TRAFFIC IN CEYLON.

Sir,

I have the honour to state that an experimental Straker and Squire motor lorry for the conveyance of goods traffic which was ordered some time ago by the Ceylon Government through the Public Works Department has arrived and been handed over to the Railway Department for the purpose of carrying out tests in the hill-country.

2. The proposal is that a suitable station should be selected in consultation with the Planters' Association, and that arrangements should be made with one or more estates situated at suitable distance from station to give me traffic for the lorry in both directions so as to get full and constant loads, payment being made to the railway for conveyance at whatever it now costs the estates by bullock carts so as to get a reasonable return during the trials. I trust you will be able to assist me in carrying the details so as to give a fair wear and tear trial to the lorry. On our side we shall keep careful statistics of the cost of running during the trials.

3. I enclose for your information (and return) a photo of the lorry. You will see it is of the "tilt van" type with fixed canvas canopy over wooden slatwork. The interior dimensions are:—8 ft. 4 in. long, 4 ft. 5 in. wide, 6 ft. 4 in. high. It is designed to take 130 tea chests of 30 lbs. 19 x 24, viz., two across (long side of chest) 5 deep and 4 high. The limit of load is two tons. The lorry is supposed to turn in a circle of 45 feet without reversing.

4. I shall be obliged if you will assist me in this matter, it being understood that the lorry was ordered by the late Governor with a view to assisting the Planting Community as regards motor traction for estates. What I particularly want is your suggestions as to the best road over which to test the lorry, and the estates which would assist me as outlined above.

5. In the meantime the lorry is being tested in Colombo, and a driver is being trained for it.

8. There is another experimental lorry on order from the Laere & Co., similar, I understand, to the one recently got out by Messrs. Gordon Frazer & Co., but it has not yet arrived.

I am, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,
(Signed) G. P. GREENE,
General Manager.

Mr. HALL BROWN spoke as to the claims of the Rangala District to the use of this lorry, and Mr. P. C. MacMahon in reply urged that the lorry should include in its journey the Medamahanuwara road. A discussion followed, and on division the Committee adopted Mr. Hall Brown's view.

It was resolved:—"That the Secretary do write and suggest to Government that the lorry be tried on either the Rangala-Wattegama or the Rangala-Kandy road."

RUBBER THEFTS.

Mr. GOLLEDGE, Chairman of the Kalutara P. A., spoke at length regarding a recently instituted prosecution which had failed. After a discussion it was resolved:—"That Mr. Golledge be asked to take steps to get the case reopened as a test, and that the Planters' Association do bear the costs of the new case."

KANDY CEMETERY.

Mr. P. R. SHAND spoke on the subject of the up-keep of cemeteries, and a subscription list was handed round. Mr. Shand undertook to see that the sum collected would be spent to advantage by the Cemetery Committee.

REPRESENTATION IN COUNCIL.

Resolved:—"That the nomination of a Rural Member of Council permanently to succeed the Hon. Mr. Rosling be deferred until January next."

Resolved:—"That the nomination of a member to act temporarily for the Hon. Mr. E. Rosling be re-considered in May."

NURSING SISTERS AT THE GENERAL HOSPITAL.

Read a letter from Mr. J. B. Coles regarding the position of the sisters who nurse planters in the Planters' Ward of the General Hospital. Resolved:—"That a copy of the letter be sent to the Hon. the Rural Member."

FAIRLIE PRESENTATION FUND.

Read a letter from the Rev. W. J. Noble, the Hon. Secretary of the Fairlie Presentation Fund, and tabled subscription lists therein enclosed.

SYSTEM OF WEIGHING RUBBER IN LONDON.

Read a letter to the Ceylon Association in London requesting it to endeavour with the co-operation of the Rubber Growers' Association, to obtain an improvement on the system of weighing rubber.

RUBBER CANKER.

Read the following letter from Government:—

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Colombo, February 28th, 1913.

THE SECRETARY,
Planters' Association of Ceylon,
Kandy.

Sir,
With reference to your letter of the 20th February, 1913, I am directed to state that it has been decided to proclaim the fungus "Phytophthora Faberi," a pest under Ordinance No. 6 of 1907, but a question has been raised by the Attorney-General as to the form of proclamation. As soon as this has been settled the proclamation will issue.

I am, &c.,
(Signed) D. W. ARNOTT,
for Colonial Secretary.

ALEX. WARDROP MEMORIAL.

The Secretary informed the meeting that a clock value £238 had been ordered from London to be the Alex. Wardrop Memorial.

A sum equal to £220 had already been collected and some £70 or £80 more was required to cover cost of freight duty, erection, &c.

ARRACK TAVERN AT NORWOOD.

Correspondence between the Planters' Association and Government *re* the proposed establishment of an arrack tavern at Norwood was read and a discussion followed.

The Hon. the Rural Member intimated that a case such as this would not be possible in future under the new rules.

RAGAMA CAMP.

Read letter from the Government Agent, W. P. regarding the issue of cloths to coolies in Ragama Camp.

Resolved:—"That the arrangements as detailed appear satisfactory, and that the Secretary do write and request the Government Agent to institute the new system as early as possible."

HOUSE OF DETENTION FOR VAGRANTS.

Read the following letter from the Inspector-General of Police.

HOUSE OF DETENTION FOR VAGRANTS.

Office of the Inspector-General of Police,
Colombo, March 11th, 1913.

THE SECRETARY,
Planters' Association.

Sir,
I have the honour to state that a house of detention has been started in Colombo. Some of the inmates are healthy able-bodied Tamils, who hitherto have found begging a more congenial and paying occupation than ordinary labour. After a short rest in the house it is possible that they may volunteer to go out to work. It is a duty imposed on the Superintendent to find work for them if possible. I shall be obliged if a few members of your Association who can offer employment to Tamil labourers and are prepared to pay the cost of their transport from Colombo to the estate will apply to the Superintendent of the House of Detention, Mutwal, to have their names placed on the register of employers.

I am, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,
(Signed) J. H. DANIEL,
Inspector-General of Police.

ORDINANCE No. 9 OF 1909.

Read the following notes forwarded by the Hon. the Rural Member.

Notes taken at a meeting between the Hon. the Attorney-General and the Hon. Mr. E. Rosling.

1. With reference to the definition of the word "labourer" suggested in Attorney-General's report No. 991 on endorsement No. 656 of 29th September, 1911, it was decided after discussion that the following definition would prove most suitable:—

"Labourer" means any person of the classes commonly known as Indian coolies and includes Mohamedans commonly known as "Tulukans" employed on any estates or seeking to be so employed for the purpose of the industry carried on upon the estate and, unless the context otherwise requires, includes a kangany and subordinate kangany.

Provided that nothing in this definition shall preclude an employer from employing any labourer entered on his Estate Register for the purpose of domestic labour.

It was suggested that section 24 sub-section 1 of Ordinance No. 9 of 1909 required to be amended. This section casts a duty on the employer to prepare a discharge ticket in respect of the coolie leaving his service. It was pointed out that there

were other circumstances than those contemplated in the section in which a cooly left the service of the employer. It was therefore proposed that the following words should be inserted after the word "tundu" appearing in the 4th line of that section or whenever his service is determined."

3. It was also proposed that the coolies should be required to make the required declaration on the estate before the Superintendent, and that the making of a false declaration be made a specific offence.

Resolved:—"That the Association approves of the proposed alterations Nos. 1 and 2, and that suggestion No. 3 should be reconsidered at a future date."

Read extracts from a correspondence between Messrs. R. M. Peile of Hunasgeria and G. W. Harris of Patiagama.

Resolved:—"That the Secretary do write and advise these gentlemen that their best course is to appear before a Police Magistrate together with the coolies for whom discharge notes are required, to swear an affidavit as to the facts and to apply for an issue of certificates."

NEW ALLOTMENT OF OFFICE EXPENSES.

The Chairman made a statement regarding the inquiry made by himself and the Secretary into the allotment of office expenditure, and the new arrangement was sanctioned by the Committee, viz., that 14/25 of the whole cost of running the office be borne by the Planters' Association.

Resolved:—"That a general meeting be held on the afternoon of the 9th May at which the Hon. Mr. E. Rosling will be presented with the life membership of the Planters' Association."

A vote of thanks to the chair terminated the proceedings.

(Signed) JOHN STILL,
Secretary, P. A. of Ceylon.



DIMBULA PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

GOVERNMENT AND TELEPHONED TELEGRAMS.

AN UNFAIR CHARGE.

MECHANICAL TRANSPORT AGAIN DELAYED BY GOVERNMENT.

MR. HAMILTON HARDING THE NEW CHAIRMAN.

ANNUAL REPORT.

The annual general meeting of the Dimbula Planters' Association was held yesterday at the Sandys Thomas Memorial Hall, Lindula, when despite the wet weather there was an excellent attendance. Mr. Rodney Mylius presided and there were also present: Messrs. A. T. Sydney Smith (Hon. Secretary), A. J. Smith, H. Wilkin-son, A. Bowie, F. W. Le Feuvre, H. D. McMillan, A. H. Armitage, F. H. Rowe, A. M. Cooper, J. Ryan, L. Cross Buchanan, G. P. Edge, F. E. Waring, J. Hatherall, G. H. Collinson, A. S. Hawkes, J. D.

Brown, W. P. R. Spencer, H. A. Greig, T. S. Mason, A. L. Scott, S. Howard, E. H. Walter, H. E. Walker, W. J. Beauchamp, W. C. Oswald, J. P. Blackmore, A. C. Chamberlain, W. Wilson Smith, A. L. Gibson, J. H. Thomas, A. Hamilton Harding, G. M. Smith, R. C. Eowler, E. E. Meggett, E. Cowan, D. J. Maitland, F. Oeffner, A. G. Baynham, etc.

Regret at inability to attend was received from Messrs. J. W. Ferguson, A. E. Walford and C. Bliss.

LIQUID OIL DRUMS.

The following correspondence was received with reference to liquid oil drums:—

No. 4012-1177.

Ceylon Government Railway,
General Manager's Office,
Colombo, 10th December, 1912.

THE SECRETARY,
Ceylon Planters' Association,
Kandy.

Sir,

I have the honour to state that I recently draw the attention of Messrs. Delmege, Forsyth and Company to the apparently defective state of some of the drums used for the conveyance of liquid fuel which resulted in leakage of oil over the carting area of some of our stations and caused liability of damage to other goods.

2. I enclose copy of Messrs. Delmege, Forsyth and Company's reply, and shall be much obliged if you will call the attention of the District Planters' Associations to this matter asking them to pay special attention to the emptying, cleansing and repairing of empty liquid fuel drums.

The damage to the goods yards was particularly noticeable in the Kelani Valley Line.

3. I shall allow a reasonable time before issuing any instructions as to the refusal of dirty or defective drums.

I am, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,
(Signed) G. P. GREENE,
General Manager.

Colombo, 5th December, 1912.

THE GENERAL MANAGER,
Ceylon Government Railway,
Colombo.

[Enclosure referred to:—]

Sir,

We have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter No. 388 of 29-30th November, contents of which have been carefully perused.

The liquid fuel drums are the property of the estates, and we cannot put them out of service unless they reach us in an unserviceable condition.

We think that a good deal of the dirtiness of which you complain would be avoided if planters were informed by you that drums handed in for return to Colombo would be refused, unless completely emptied of all liquid fuel and cleansed and scraped outside before leaving the estates, and we commend this step to your consideration.

We are, &c.,
(Signed) DELMEGE, FORSYTH & CO.

LIQUID FUEL DRUMS.

Mr. HAMILTON HARDING asked what was the complaint, whether it was as to quality or cleanliness.

The SECRETARY replied that it referred to cleanliness, and said it did not affect them very much in that district.

MECHANICAL TRANSPORT.

The following letter was received regarding the above subject:—

No. 1881.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Colombo, December 13th, 1912.THE HON. SECRETARY,
Dimbula Planters' Association.

Sir,
In continuation of my acknowledgment of your letter dated the 2nd November, 1912, I am directed to inform you that the roads, the suitability of which for motor lorry traffic is being considered, are those referred to in your letter of 12th June, viz., Talawakele-Nanuoya, Railway Gorge and Wallaha.

2. As regards paragraph 2 of your letter, I am to state that, the Lindula-Agrapatana road being a branch road, its conversion into a road fit for motor lorry traffic will involve an increase in the annual cost of maintenance which will have to be borne in part by the proprietors of the estates concerned; hence their consent is necessary for carrying out the proposed improvement, even though the cost of the actual improvement is to be borne by the Ceylon Tea Plantations Co., Ltd. As the large majority of the estates concerned have expressed themselves in favour of the improvements the Director of Public Works has been authorised to make a proper survey and estimate of cost. The cost of this survey will be borne by Government.

3. I am to add that it is regretted that until the Director of Public Works has definitely reported that the roads are suitable, permission cannot be accorded you to run one lorry experimentally.

I am, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,
(Signed) A. N. GALBRAITH,
for Colonial Secretary.

TELEPHONES.

Correspondence dealing with telephones was read as follows:—

1th December, 1912.

The Hon'ble
THE COLONIAL SECRETARY.

Sir,
I have the honour to draw your attention to the lately introduced charge on Telephoned-Telegrams. My Association feel that His Excellency the Governor and the Executive Council cannot have been aware of facts in this matter peculiarly affecting the Dimbula District, when considering the matter in reference to the whole of Ceylon, or when in communication with the Planters' Association of Ceylon on the subject. I am therefore directed to place before you the particular position in which the District stands, being as it is, on a totally different footing to other parts.

2. Some years ago Telephone Scheme for the District was mooted and a special Committee appointed. Before it should be determined what amount of support, &c., would be forthcoming estimates had to be framed and Government terms, &c., ascertained. A report was then laid before residents and the support of upwards of 50 people obtained.

3. A point that carried considerable weight in obtaining support was free connection with the Post Offices, and a large number of persons joined on this understanding. Within the short space some 2½ years we find those terms broken through and supercharges imposed. The subscribers to the scheme feel strongly that they have not been fairly treated, and we feel that the authorities could not have assented to the recent changes with a knowledge of the promises previously given by Government themselves.

4. I would therefore draw your attention to the terms of this original promise, conveyed to the Telephone Committee of this Association in a letter from the Hon. the Colonial Secretary dated August 27th, 1910, No 13569. I append a copy of that letter, in which Government expressly state that provided the instrument and connection is installed at the expense of our Committee and its erection to the satisfaction of the Postmaster-General free communication will be allowed by our subscribers with the Post Offices, on a payment of Rs. 18 per annum per office.

5. These were the terms offered, accepted and complied with by our Committee and by them submitted to proprietors of estates and others, who believing these to be authoritative terms sanctioned heavy outlays, in respect of their various interests.

6. In view of the above facts this Association can only believe that His Excellency and the Executive Council overlooked the agreements made in 1910, and would therefore ask that, with the knowledge of these before them, the position of Dimbula in respect to the lately imposed charges be reconsidered. We believe the promises previously made by Government will bear weight in determining the conditions imposed in this district.

7. I would therefore ask that these facts be laid before His Excellency.

I have the honour to be, Sir,
Yours faithfully,
(Signed) HON. SECRETARY.

No. 13569.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Colombo, 27th August, 1910.

MR. F. W. LE FEUVRE,
Hon. Secretary,
Dimbula Telephone Committee,
Balmoral Estate, Agrapatna.

(Copy)

Sir,
In reply to your letters of the 1st and 17th August, 1910, I am directed to state that Government has no objection to the buildings referred to being connected with the proposed private telephone exchanges in the Dimbula District, provided the expenditure involved in such connections is borne by the owners of the exchanges.

2. The actual work of connection must be done to the satisfaction and with the approval of the local District Engineer and (a) the Postmaster-General as regards the Post Offices; (b) the General Manager of the Railway as regards Railway Stations; (c) the Principal Civil Medical Officer as regards Hospitals; and (d) the Inspector-General of Police as regards the Police Stations.

3. The connection with any Post Office will be subject to a rental of Rs. 12 per annum.

I am, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,
(Signed) A. N. GALBRAITH,
for Colonial Secretary,

No. 22341.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Colombo, Jan. 15th, 1913.

Sir,
In connection of my acknowledgment of your letter of the 11th December, 1912, relative to the fee charged for the transmission of telegrams over the telephone, I am directed to inform you that Government can find no justification for the suggestion in paragraph 4 of your letter that my letter dated 27th August, 1910, to the Dimbula Telephone Committee conveyed a promise that free transmission of telegrams over the telephone to and from the Post Offices would be allowed to those telephone exchanges that might be connected with such Post Offices.

2. My letter merely stated that there was no objection to connections with Post Offices being made at the expense of the owners of the exchange, and mentioned the already existing rent in the case of connections with Post Offices. It contained no mention whatever of free communication between subscribers and the Post Office.

3. With regard to your contention that the proprietors of estates and others sanctioned the outlay for their telephones on the understanding that free communication with the Post Office would be allowed to subscribers, I am to observe that at the time that my letter of August 27th, 1910, was written, there were already two exchanges in existence in Dimbula, and I am to refer you to the conditions (copy attached) under which such exchanges have from the beginning been licensed. They contain, it will be seen, no stipulation that telegrams shall be transmitted free over the telephone. On the contrary they provide that, in addition to the rent of Rs. 18, a cash deposit shall be kept in the hands of the Postmaster to cover the cost of all telegrams, of which cost the additional charges recently introduced clearly form a part. They expressly provide, however, that the regulations contained in them are open to alteration or addition.

4. I am to state in conclusion that while the Governor adheres to the decision with regard to a fee for the transmission of telegrams by telephone, His Excellency has given orders that in view of the extra charge now made on telegrams the annual rental charged by the Post Office Department for the connection of a private telephone exchange with a district Post Office shall be waived in future. This decision was conveyed to the Chairman, Planters' Association of Ceylon, by my letter of 26th November last.

I am, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,
(Signed) A. N. GALBRAITH,
for Colonial Secretary.

THE HON. SECRETARY,
Dimbula P. A.

Conditions on which the Postmaster-General is prepared to allow the Post Office at Agrapatna to be connected with the Exchange at Hauteville Factory belonging to the Galaha Ceylon Tea Estates & Agency Company, Limited, hereinafter called the licensee, free of expense to Government:—

1. That the Postmaster-General shall not be responsible for any loss, delay, mutilation or error to any telegram or telegrams accepted or delivered through the Telephone.
2. The Senders and Addressees of telegrams shall take all risk of want of secrecy, overhearing, induction or fault.
3. The Licensee shall pay a rent of Rs. 18 per annum to the Postmaster-General.
4. The Senders and Addressees of Telegrams sent over the telephone shall keep a cash deposit in the hands of the Postmaster sufficient to cover the cost of all telegrams accepted or delivered over the telephone.
5. The Telephone Service shall be used during Postal Telegraph business hours only.
6. The Telephone in the Post Office shall be attended to or repaired only during the hours when the Post Office is open to the public for Postal-Telegraph business, the actual time to be arranged with the Postmaster.
7. The Telephone in the Post Office shall be used by the officials of the Postal-Telegraph Department only, and on no account will any other person be permitted to enter the Post Office and use the instrument.
8. The foregoing regulations are open to alteration or addition.
9. The Postmaster-General reserves the right to withdraw the concession at any time after three months' notice, without assigning any reason for such withdrawal.

Mr. HAMILTON HARDING asked if any gentleman could throw any light on what the terms were.

The SECRETARY:—They are attached to the letter.

Mr. LE FEUVRE said personally he did not think the terms had anything to do with the point at issue. The Association through the Telephones Committee write to Government on the 1st of August, 1910, and asked them on what terms Government would allow connections to be made with the Post Office. Government replied and said that they themselves would not make any connection, but would offer no objection to the Association making the connection, providing they paid the full expenditure, and in the case of the Post Office the rental was Rs. 18 per month. Government denied that they specified any terms whatever. Their letter asked them for terms. There was no justification for going to the expense of putting the line into the Post Office unless it was for free transmission of telegrams. Government gave that privilege to them. It was quite true that Government did not state in so many words that they should have free use of the lines, but they gave them to understand that such would be the case. They ought to have made known the fees they were going to charge. In the same letter Government did not say that they could have free use of the lines to the Railway, Government Hospital, Police Station. Heads of Departments concerned had not asked them to pay a fee for using those lines. Further, no promise

was conveyed that they could even use the lines after going to the expense of putting them up. The Government letter of August 27th, 1910, was written in confirmation of the interview granted to Mr. Biddulph and Mr. Baillie Hamilton. At that interview it was thoroughly understood by the Colonial Secretary that they were asking for the connection and nothing was said about charges, over and above the rental of Rs. 18 per month. The Postmaster-General's conditions were not mentioned and they were not told of any special conditions. The Colonial Secretary stated that in these conditions there was a stipulation that telegrams would not be transmitted free. Where was the stipulation? The speaker drew attention to the fact that there were words "Cash deposits shall be kept to cover cost of telegrams," but that could not be made to cover the cost of 15 cents a telegram for transmission. This deposit simply provided for the cost of telegrams to be paid before the telegram was sent. There was no doubt that the Postmaster-General was opposed to their having instruments at the Post Office all along, and went to the Colonial Secretary straight away. He was annoyed, he supposed, and saw a way to increase the revenue at their expense. Government said there was no saving in telephoning telegrams. Previously Government paid a santosum of six cents for every 25-cent telegram delivered within the free radius to the peon, over and above his salary. The nett result was 19 cents. The new rules were a 25-cent telegram and 15 cents for transmission which made a total of 40 cents, an increase of 111 per cent. profit on every 25-cent telegram sent out within the free radius. He thought it was iniquitous. No extra clerks were required and it cost Government nothing at all. The Postmaster-General said that it required a more expensive form of labour. These statements were not in accordance with fact, and it was then stated that the postmaster, who got perhaps Rs. 70 a month, would have to speak through the 'phone instead of the wire being sent by the coolie. How could Government state that there was no saving to them when the telegrams were sent out by telephone? The whole correspondence with the Association had been quibbling throughout, evasion of the points at issue and statements that were not in accordance with fact. Clearly these statements could only be made from information given or kept back by the Postmaster-General. It was not a matter that applied to Dimbula Association only, but to all up-country districts where telephones were erected and maintained at subscribers' expense. It was most unfair that the same rules should apply in Colombo, Kandy and Nuwara Eliya, where the telephones were Government ones as Up-country maintained by subscribers (applause) and he did not think they should let the matter drop. (Hear, hear.)

A VERBAL ARRANGEMENT.

Mr. HAMILTON HARDING asked whether any account or copy was taken of the proceedings at the interview Mr. Biddulph and Mr. Baillie Hamilton had with the Colonial Secretary as to terms. It seemed that the whole thing was verbal and the Colonial Secretary never gave any confirmation of his interview with the officers of the Association. If they only had the promise on paper, they would have Government in the palm of their hands (laughter).

The CHAIRMAN—I am afraid not. (More laughter.)

Mr. LE FEUVRE—We have the written letters.

Mr. HAMILTON HARDING said it was rather peculiar that the terms should not have been made in writing.

Mr. LE FEUVRE said that during the interview permission was asked to connect Government buildings with their private exchange. Government said permission would be given if application was made at once. Application was made in writing a month after.

The CHAIRMAN to Mr. Harding :—In the letter you hold now.

Mr. LE FEUVRE suggested that a deputation should go to the Acting Governor and discuss the whole matter of telephones in the district.

Mr. HAMILTON HARDING :—I am of opinion there should be another deputation. Mr. Le Feuvre has taken a tremendous lot of trouble in the matter, and I propose that Mr. Le Feuvre be the head of the deputation with Mr. Baillie Hamilton.

Mr. LE FEUVRE then moved a resolution to the effect that a deputation of the Dimbula Planters' Association be appointed and an interview asked for with H. E. the Acting Governor to discuss the equity of the present rules for the transmission of telegrams by telephone, as they affect the Dimbula district.

Mr. HAMILTON HARDING seconded, saying it was a capital resolution. It did not tell them what the deputation was going to talk about. (Laughter.)

Mr. LE FEUVRE suggested that it should simply discuss matters as they affected Dimbula district.

The deputation was then appointed : to consist of the Chairman and Secretary, Messrs. Bliss, Baillie Hamilton and Le Feuvre.

DEMURRAGE.

The following letter was read with reference to an application by the Association *re* the abolition of demurrage charges in cases of transport breakdowns through disease, etc :—

Colombo, 7th December, 1912.

THE HON. SECRETARY,
Dimbula P. A.
Diyanila Kele, Lindula.

Sir,

With reference to your letter of the 3rd December, I have the honour to inform you that I regret I am unable to agree to such a sweeping proposal as that made by your Association, viz., that the question of demurrage on goods at Talawakelle should be absolutely cancelled at present.

I have, however, given instructions that reasonable relaxation of the rule may be granted, according to circumstances, during the prevalence of cattle disease in the district.

I am, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,
(Signed) G. P. GREENE,
General Manager.

On the motion of Mr. COOPER, seconded by Mr. MEGGET, a letter of thanks was sent to the Railway Authorities for their courtesy.

CARTS ON THE WRONG SIDE.

Mr. HATHERALL drew attention to the fact that carts never seemed to keep to the right side of the road. He thought it would be a good thing to impress upon the owners of cattle that they should keep to the proper side. The present position was very dangerous to cyclists and other traffic on the road.

The Hon. SECRETARY said that two or three years ago the matter was gone into very carefully and considerable trouble taken in approaching Government and the

police. A considerable improvement was effected and things were now certainly better than what they used to be. Possibly it would be worth while to take the matter up again.

THE REPORT.

The annual report of the Association was as follows : minor alterations having made at the Committee Meeting which allowed the ordinary annual gathering :

FORTIETH ANNUAL REPORT.

MEMBERSHIP.—108, 104 estate voters, one private subscriber and three honorary members being the same as in 1911.

MEETINGS.—Four general meetings and three general Committee meetings were held, the attendances averaging 29 and 16 respectively against 29 and 20 last year.

A special general meeting to consider the constitution and rules of the Association was held in addition, 17 members being present.

ACREAGE.—Details have not been collected from estates for two years. Last figures were :—

Total area of estates in Dimbula	54,279 acres
Total cultivated acreage	48,464 "
Composed of tea	46,814 | Cinchona " 51
Timber	1,205 | Coffee 50
Grass	278 | Rubber 11
Camphor	55

Several pieces of patna and guins have since been planted in tea, the average of which product must have very slightly increased. The tea crop of the District is about 25,000,000 lbs.

SEASON AND TEA CROP.—Generally the rainfall has been a little short, but well distributed and a favourable season experienced throughout the year with the exception of a very poor November. Crops generally are well above the average. Prices have been firm at last year's level, whilst flavony teas and low grades have been particularly in demand.

Belgravia estate rainfall was 86.76 inches against a five years average of 100.13 inches.

OBITUARY.—We have to record with deep regret the deaths of Mr. W. B. Jackson, Mr. J. R. Manners, Mr. G. Disney Brabazon, Mr. O. Wynne Gray and Mrs. Walter Agar.

RETIRED RESIDENTS.—Mr. Joseph C. Dunbar, Mr. R. Watt Kerr, and Mr. Chas. Ryan, all prominent residents of Dimbula for many years.

PLANTERS' BENEVOLENT FUND.—District canvassers are appointed annually to collect for this fund. Calls continue to increase and its support is commended to every planter.

DONATION.—The usual grant on "Dimbula Terms" has been paid to the Ceylon Nursing Association Rs. 50.

FINANCE.—The amount at credit of the Association is Rs. 61.86 against Rs. 117.23, 61.53, and 23.62 in the past 3 years.

The increased expenditure this year has been principally due to a heavier volume of work than for some years, and cost of printing a larger number of circulars than usual.

TELEPHONES.—It is anticipated that Government will erect the connecting lines between Agrapatna, Lindula, and Talawakelle early in 1913. The exchanges at these places are working well and a good measure of support has been given, there being about 60 subscribers. Government has promised to connect the Public stations with the local exchanges.

The new Postal charge of 15 cents on each telegram telephoned is engaging the attention of the Association, and it is hoped that this altogether unlooked for and defenceless impost will be removed, more especially in view of previous agreements with the district.

ROADS.—These are in fair order with the exception of the road to Diyagama caddies, Eildon Hall caddies, and portions of the George Valley road. The portions from Talawakelle to Lindula was for some months in a very bad condition, and only treated very much later in the year than usual after a protest from this Association. A portion of the road from Craigie Lee to Talawakelle was laid with tar, but such an experiment on this portion of the road can be but little criterion as the traffic here is very light. A Steam Roller has again been used on parts of the main road. It is questionable whether it is of suitable size. The metal broken appears to be of the same dimensions as formerly and is quickly pulverised. The authorities should consider both these points. The extension of the use of the Steam Roller is also very desirable. The construction of the

Talawakelle-Watagoda road has now been taken in hand and work is in progress. Most of the bad corners on the roads have been "benched" and are a great improvement, but a good many remain to be done in the Kotiyagalla district. Frequent changes of road officers occur, no less than three District Engineers having been stationed in Dimbula during 1912. The practice of these frequent changes can hardly be beneficial to efficiency or economy.

MINOR ROADS.—The usual grant of Rs. 1,150 was received from Government and allotted, Mr. Sheppard reports that the Bridge at Glassaugh on the Nannoya-Talawakelle bridge road requires some extensive repairs. Otherwise no complaints have been received.

RICE.—Rates have fluctuated slightly and continue very high.

LABOUR.—Recruiting from the coast has been active and the returns from 1912 are excellent. Locally the Labour Question continues to cause concern, and advances to show a rising tendency. Numerous schemes have been brought forward and discussed, but little so far has been achieved towards a solution of the problem. The Coast Agency has engaged a good deal of attention during the year, and the European staff has been considerably strengthened.

CATTLE DISEASE.—There have been outbreaks of foot-and-mouth disease and rinderpest during the year, and considerable inconvenience has been caused. There appears little hope of an absence of sporadic outbreaks in the future, whilst a serious outbreak of rinderpest is always a likely contingency that may have to be faced. The only solution of the difficulty and of removing a serious crisis that might occur at any time appears to be the introduction of mechanical transport. The Association is of opinion more stringent measures should be taken to restrict contagion from outside areas.

MOTOR MECHANICAL TRANSPORT.—In view of the ever present danger of a crisis through cattle disease the early necessity of introducing some form of mechanical transport is only too apparent. A Committee has been sitting during the year to deal with the question, but has so far been unable to make much progress, most of the time being occupied in communicating with Government and receiving replies after long delay. It is unlikely that any general scheme would be taken up by a Company and there are considerable difficulties in the way of a co-operative concern for the district. Its introduction, therefore, is mostly in the hands of estate owners, some of whom would be willing to start forthwith were Government conciliatory. Permission to use the main road from the 22nd to 26th mile posts has been given, and Government are also willing to allow the use of approved lorries on the roads to the Agras provided estates agree and certain improvements estimated to cost about Rs. 10,000 are executed. Money has to be provided by those interested. Government is now undertaking a detailed survey for this purpose in view of the consent given by the large majority of owners, and the likelihood of the money being forthcoming. The question of the Branch Roads is still being considered by Government. In any case some time must elapse before the roads can be put in the desired condition and the whole question must continue to occupy the energetic attention of this Association.

GENERAL PURPOSES FUND.—Considerable increased support has been given this fund during the year. Rs. 400 was contributed by Patrons and credited to capital account, which after a contribution of Rs. 300 to the Hall Extension from the money brought forward from last year now stands at Rs. 522.23. The account for 1912 shows a small balance-in-hand of Rs. 8.06 after meeting all calls, which has been transferred to the capital account. However despite this success the fund was unable to face all the expenses it was founded to meet, and a special whip had to be sent out in connection with the Doctor's Bungalow repairs. The subscription in future will be Rs. 10 and if supported as it should be by residents, benefitting by the District Institutions provided for them by a generous past, the fund would be able to meet everything desired and special calls avoided.

DEEDS.—Those were taken out of sale custody for examination and will be tabled at the annual meeting, prior to being sent back to the Bank of Madras.

HOSPITAL REPORTS.—These are appended and will be found to be of a satisfactory nature, with the exception of the accommodation in the female general ward of the Lindula Hospital,

EUROPEAN DOCTOR SCHEME.—We regret to state Dr. Drummond after about 20 years service had to leave the district owing to ill-health. A Committee was then appointed to consider the whole question of the European Doctor Scheme, and this has, we trust, been placed on a more satisfactory business footing. A Committee will be appointed annually to deal with the question in future. The services of Dr. Smart of Fiji are being obtained, and he anticipates entering on his duties about the middle of March. The Doctor's Bungalow requires considerable repairs and a list was sent round the district with a view to meeting the cost Rs. 697.50 had been promised on December 31st, and the Committee is dealing with the matter.

CHAPLAINCY.—We regret to state the Rev. W. A. Purton's health broke down necessitating an immediate change to England. Six months leave of absence was granted and His Lordship the Bishop is doing all he can to assist the district in maintaining regular ministrations during his absence.

VOLUNTEERING.—C. Co. C.P.R.C. had a successful Camp at the Bo pats. Support of both the C. M. R. and C. P. R. C. is much the same as last year and being well maintained.

PESTS.—The district continues to be free from pests of any serious importance. A suggestion was made that "Oxalis Violacea" should be proclaimed under the Ordinance, but negated by the Plant Pest Boards as impracticable. The steady increase of this rapidly spreading weed can only be regarded with serious concern, and calls for great vigilance on the part of the Superintendents.

ROBBERIES.—A number of audacious safe burglaries have disquieted the district during the year, and with a recent successful attempt in a neighbouring district the culprits appear to be still active and the matter calls for the continued earnest endeavours of the Police, whose efforts have so far met with a certain amount of success.

MATERNITY NURSING SCHEME.—The Agrapatna Estates have co-operated in the maintenance of a maternity nurse for labourers under the supervision of the Government Medical Department. The scheme is reported to be working with excellent results, and its extension would doubtless go far towards decreasing infantile mortality in other parts—a very important matter in connection with the Labour Problem. The desirability of further and sustained efforts towards the successful upbringing of cool children cannot be too strongly impressed.

EXCISE.—The year has seen the inauguration of a new Excise System—a matter of grave concern to all employers of labour. Government appear to be endeavouring to meet all reasonable objections and desirous of checking illicit sales and curtailing insobriety. It is early to criticise the working of the scheme which has so far affected little in Dimbula—where the chief feature, the separation of the toddy and arrack rents is not noticeable.

OPIUM.—Superintendents are reminded that this invaluable drug in the treatment of disease can now be obtained and kept by them in small quantities for the benefit of estate labourers.

CONSTITUTION OF RULES.—A special general meeting was held to revise the rules which will come up before the general meeting for confirmation.

DIMBULA HALL.—No use has been made of this building except by the D. P. A. and Badminton Club. As a result there is a heavy loss of Rs. 256.94, which has had to be found from the General Purposes Fund Account for 1912.

LINDULA HOSPITAL REPORT.

During the year, on our visits to the Hospital, everything was found in good order and quite satisfactory.

ACCOMMODATION in all the wards, with the exception of No. 5 ward (Female general ward), is generally sufficient. No. 5 ward is invariably overcrowded, and sometimes very much so, as the following figures will show. This ward contains 14 beds and the average number of patients under treatment daily from 1st January to date has been 20. The crowding was worst in the month of June with a daily average of 24 patients under treatment, July with 29 and August with 26. These figures speak for themselves and show that accommodation for females in the Hospital should be increased.

BUILDINGS AND SURROUNDINGS are all clean and well kept. We are glad to report that the covered passages between Administration Block and Wards and Nurses' Quarters and Wards, frequently recommended by a succession of Hospital Visitors are now being constructed. A further great improve-

ment would be fly-proof protection for Kitchens and Latrines. The application of tar to the road in front of the Hospital in the early part of this year proved very beneficial.

The total number of cases treated in Hospital to date was 733, of which 570 were Estate Labourers. Deaths numbered 98-85 being estate labourers. The principal causes of death were in order:—DYSENTERY, DIARRHŒA, ANCHYLOSTOMIASIS.

The percentage of deaths on total admission is 13-37 against 14-53 in 1911, and is the lowest we can find recorded. The number of cases of Anchylostomiasis treated in Hospital was 116, deaths from this disease numbered 18. 4,133 Estate Labourers were treated at the Dispensary and on Estates, out of which 140 were Anchylostomiasis cases.—H. D. McMILLAN, J. H. C. OGILVY, Unofficial Hospital Visitors.—27th November, 1912.

DIMBULA HOSPITAL REPORT.

(From 1st January to 30th November.)

ACCOMMODATION.—Although admissions have increased considerably, the Hospital does not appear to have been overcrowded at any time. Total admissions to date 497, number of deaths 52, percentage of deaths 10-46. Number of Out-door patients treated 5,863, number of Out-door patients last year 4,810.

MORTALITY.—52 deaths have been registered out of 497 admissions, the percentage of deaths being 10-46, as against 396 admissions and a percentage of 17-93 deaths during the same period last year. This shows an appreciable fall in the death rate, and is satisfactory considering the emaciated and hopeless condition of cases sent in for treatment at the last moment, instead of at an earlier stage of illness.

ANCHYLOSTOMIASIS.—54 cases were admitted during the year, resulting in 10 deaths. Although this points to a big increase on previous years, it is apparently due more to a closer scrutiny of cases than to a spread of the disease, which does not seem to be more prevalent in the district.

MEDICINES AND FOOD.—A sufficient supply of medicines has been maintained and the food is of good quality.

BUILDINGS.—All buildings and out-houses are clean and tidy. Shelves have been fitted up in the Store Rooms as suggested in last year's report. A good sink is required in the kitchen, and I am told that this has already been applied for.

GROUNDS.—The immediate vicinity of the Hospital is clean and tidy. The outlying grounds require more constant attention, and I would suggest applying for a special P. W. D. vote for draining, and cleaning up jungle growth and weeds, which would be required to be done at least four times a year to keep the surroundings in good order, the ground being marshy and drains overgrown with grass. I would estimate the cost of this to be about Rs. 100 a year.

GENERAL.—Dr. Fitzroy Keyt has earned the thanks of the district for his close and careful attention to his duties, and for the interest he takes in his Hospital which is always clean and tidy.

(Signed) F. E. WARING,
Unofficial Hospital Visitor.

4th December, 1912.

THE CHAIRMAN'S SPEECH.

In moving the adoption of the report, the CHAIRMAN said he believed it was usual in moving its acceptance to make a review of the year's work. The report which was in their hands dealt so fully with this that there was very little for him to say. There had been a good deal to do and an unusually large number of Sub-Committees had been appointed which had taken up a good deal of their time, but he hoped permanent good would result from their labours. Mechanical Road Transport had occupied a lot of attention, and he feared they were not much "forrader." There was a great deal of work to be done in the new year, if this was to be less of a scheme and more of a reality, and there was a lot of tough work waiting in the attack on Government obstinacy and delay in the matter. The doctor's bungalow had been taken in hand. The Committee had decided to go for making it a more substantial structure rather than

carrying out suggested improvements to a tottering house, and to leave additions and so forth to the doctor, believing in the first place he would prefer a sound roof over his head. The work undertaken would cost about Rs. 1,200, the bulk of which had already been promised. He could assure them that this would put the bungalow in sound order, and there would no longer be any question of its insecurity for the future. Both the doctor and chaplain fell ill, and he need not remind them of facts fresh in their memory. The year had seen the local telephone scheme working well, and the introduction of the new Excise Scheme of the Colony. It was too early yet to criticise the latter's working either locally or elsewhere. In broader spheres the wonderful prosperity and advancement of recent years had been fully maintained, and Dimbula had not been behind hand in her share. The controlling hands of that advancement were leaving our shores within a very few months of one another; two of that ablest administrators it had been the island's fortune to have will have sped away. Sir Hugh Clifford to continue the work of Empire building in more of an outpost of the realm than Ceylon; Sir Henry McCallum broken down under the strain of that very work. Only that morning at his request the secretary had wired His Excellency of the regret of that Association at his departure; his premature departure owing to ill-health, wishing him bon voyage, and a speedy restoration to his full vigour. Such he was sure were their sentiments, and he was sure they would emphasise their action (hear, hear). He would not try to pierce the future, but on it would be indelibly impressed the record of their wise administration, and not least from their point of view, the help they had given to the Planting Community in straightening out their difficulties. Turning now to the accounts they would see in the balance sheet outstandings Rs. 1,217-50. This was no reflection on the district. It pointed to the liberality of its residents, and it was entirely due to lists sent out in the last few weeks of the year. The P. A. had more heavy working expenses than in the previous year—which were very light—due to the unusual number of different circulars they had to send out, principally in connection with mechanical transport. The balance carried forward compared favourably with previous years. The Hall showed a terrible loss, but the debt on extensions was nearly wiped out, having been reduced by about Rs. 800. The General Purposes Fund had been supported better than ever before with 68 supporters. The chaplaincy accounts revealed a very satisfactory state of affairs and sound business order, and reflected the greatest possible credit on Mr. Cross Buchanan, and the popularity of their chaplain. The booklet in their hands (the report, etc.) was more bulky than usual, due to the inclusion this year of the rules and proceedings of the meetings. The latter were reprinted by the Press as the meeting took place, at a very small cost from the type set up for their columns, and would form a record for those who maintained a permanent interest in the political doings of the district. The news of Mr. Festing's departure from Nuwara Eliya would be received with regret. All the time he had been at Nuwara Eliya that Association had found in him a most courteous and hard-working official, always doing all he could to assist the district.

The report was then unanimously adopted.

A NEW CHAIRMAN.

Mr. MYLIUS then thanked all the members for their loyal support during the past year and the interests they had taken in the proceedings of the Association. He paid a high tribute to the work of the Secretary, and the various officials for the good work they had done. Mr. Bowie as the senior past Chairman was invited to take the chair *pro tem*, which he did amid much applause.

Mr. BOWIE proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the retiring Chairman for the care he had conducted the business of the Association, and the way he had looked after the interests of the district. Mr. Mylius briefly replied.

Mr. BOWIE then proposed a vote of thanks to the Hon. Secretary, Mr. Sydney Smith having occupied the position for many years past and longer than anyone else. They all knew how well he had conducted the business of the Association, and Mr. Sydney Smith deserved their heartiest thanks. (Hear, hear.)

The vote was heartily accorded and Mr. Smith briefly voiced his thanks, both for the compliment and the assistance he had received during his terms of office.

Mr. LE FEUVRE also proposed a vote of thanks to the Chairman and Secretary for their hospitality in serving tea after the meetings which also was heartily carried.

Mr. OSWALD then proposed that Mr. Hamilton Harding be the new Chairman, mentioning that he had been Secretary four or five years ago and was thoroughly deserving of the chair.

Mr. LE FEUVRE seconded and the motion was carried with acclamation.

Mr. HARDING, in reply, thanked them very deeply for the honour done him and said he was fully sensible of the honour conferred upon him, and the responsibilities which the post carried with it, for as they knew Dimbula was the premier Up-country planting Association of Ceylon. He trusted that their selection would be justified, and he could only assure them that it would be his earnest endeavour to uphold the dignity of that Association, and to do his utmost to guard its best interests during his *régime*. He might mention that he was no "Puth arl" to Dimbula, having come out to the district a matter of 24 years ago, and during his stay at different times had always taken the liveliest interest in its welfare. He would like to take that opportunity of asking the Committee and general members to kindly co-operate with him as much as they could to safeguard and further the interests of the Association. He was a fairly busy man and, therefore, would take it very kindly if they would support him to his utmost ability and to overlook his shortcomings. With the able lieutenant they had given him to carry out the arduous work of Hon. Secretary, he felt sure the business of their Association would be carried on to their satisfaction when the machinery warmed to its work.

THE NEW SECRETARY.

Mr. Huntley Wilkinson was unanimously elected the new Secretary, and Mr. Cross Buchanan the Auditor.

COMMITTEES.

Various Committees and other officials were elected as follows:—

Standing Committee—Messrs. Waring, Tilly, Sinclair, Bliss, H. G. Layard, Mylius, Bowie, Walker and Sydney Smith.

Representative Committees:—Upper Agras—Messrs. Gibson and Orchard.

Agras—Messrs. W. Smith, Bartlet and Chamberlin.

Preston Valley—Messrs. Fowler and Megget.

Gorge—Messrs. Baillie Hamilton and Healing.

Tillicoultry—Mr. C. Bliss.

Wallaha—Messrs. Oswald and Maitland.

Lindula—Mr. Mason.

Talawakele—Messrs. Cooper and Shelley.

Watagoda—Messrs. Eustace and Wait.

Lower Dimbula—Messrs. Blackmore and McMillan.

Kotiyagalla—Messrs. Sidgwick and Cook.

Mount Veron—Messrs. Morrison and Edge.

Upper Dimbula—Messrs. Collinson, McLean and Armitage.

Lower Dimbula—Messrs. Buchanan and Cowan.

Hon. Secretary of Telephones—Mr. Le Feuvre.

Hon. Secretary, District Chaplain's Fund—Mr. Cross Buchanan.

Special Committees:—Kandy—Messrs. Walker, Le Feuvre, Bowie, Mylius and A. L. Gibson.

Doctor—Messrs. Bliss, Scott, McMillan, Bowie, Cooper, Cook, Buckle and Mason.

Church—Messrs. Le Feuvre, W. Smith, Cowan, Cross Buchanan, Buckle and Waring.

Telephones—Messrs. Le Feuvre, J. G. Sinclair, Cross Buchanan, Howard and Blackmore.

Mechanical Transport—Messrs. Gibson, Maitland and Walker.

Minor Roads—Messrs. Fowler, Cooper and McMillan.

Vigilance—Messrs. G. F. Edge, G. H. Collinson, C. Bliss and Scott.

P. B. FUND—Messrs. Cooke, Shelley, Healing, Scott and Collinson.

Government appointments, as previously.

Hospitals—Messrs. Mitchell, Walford, Ogilvy, McMillan, Scott and Spurway.

Plant Pests—Mr. H. E. Walker.

Small Towns—Mr. Cooper.

District Appointments—Chaplain—Rev. W. A. Purton. Doctor—Dr. Smartt.

ARRACK.

Mr. A. M. COOPER had the following resolution on the agenda:—"That Government be asked to consider the impracticability of entirely doing away with off licenses for arrack."

Mr. COOPER explained that he had seen in that day's papers that Government were doing to limit possession of arrack to two bottles and distribution to two. Under the circumstances, therefore, he asked leave to withdraw his resolution.

On the motion of Mr. WALKER a resolution of approval of this action was passed.

HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION.

Mr. McMILLAN drew attention to the need for further female accommodation in the Lindula Hospital and proposed a resolution, which was carried, that the P.C.M.O. be asked to further increase this accommodation.

Mr. GIBSON seconded.

Mr. EDGE drew attention to the practice of Fiscal's peons demanding bribes from coolies and others, and it was decided he should write to the Fiscal before any action was taken by the Association.

Mr. LE FEUVRE pointed out the limitations of the Branch Roads Committee with reference to complaints, etc., and it was decided to support the Committee's resolution in demanding particular information.

PRESENTATION TO RETIRING SECRETARY.

Before the meeting concluded Mr. Oswald, Mr. James Ryan, and others drew attention to the good work performed by Mr. Sydney Smith.

Mr. Oswald said—As one of the oldest members of this Association I have seen a good many Hon. Secretaries, but have never seen a harder working one than our retiring Secretary, Mr. Sydney Smith. He has put up a record of seven years' work for us, and I know that I am expressing the sentiment of all the members that it would be a graceful act to present Mr. Smith with a memento in the shape of a piece of plate with a suitable inscription. Therefore, I beg to propose the following resolution:—"That the Association vote a sum of Rs. 150 for the purpose of a memento to our retiring Hon. Secretary, Mr. Sydney Smith, to take the form of a small piece of plate, to be chosen by Mr. Smith while in England, a suitable inscription for same to be drafted by the Chairman, in appreciation of Mr. Sydney Smith's services as Hon. Secretary of this Association for the past seven years."

The resolution was carried.

THE KEGALLE PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

MR. SMALE RE-ELECTED CHAIRMAN.

THE UNDUGODA ROAD.

The annual General Meeting of this Association was held at the Kegalle Resthouse on December 25th, at 1 p.m.

Present:—Messrs. Jackson Smale (Chairman), A. G. Barrs, P. F. Ondaatjie, A. G. Bayley, J. H. Lukin, A. A. Franklin, L. H. Deed, H. de Lisle Tupper, A. T. Hemsley, C. Turton Sinclair, L. M. Wilkins, G. Harris, J. R. Thistle (Hon. Secretary.) Visitors.—G. Grieg, H. D. Taylor, and T. P. Bulkley.

The business of the meeting was arranged at the Committee meeting held earlier in the day. The notice of the meeting was read, and the minutes of the last meeting taken as read and confirmed.

DELIVERY OF LETTERS FROM THE COAST.

The following letter was read from the Ceylon Labour Commissioner with reference to the delivery of coolies' letters in India.

Trichinopoly, 23rd October, 1912.

THE HON. SECRETARY,
Kegalle, Planters' Association.

Sir,
In reply to your letter of the 15th instant, I have the honour to inform you that the following are the methods adopted for delivery of letters in the villages of South India. "Village circuit postal peons take tapals, from nearest Post Offices and visit in order the villages in their circle and deliver same

to the addressees and take a certificate from the village official in proof of their having done so." Money should invariably be remitted by money order, it is not advisable to send it in any other way. To ensure receipt of a letter, if it is sent unstamped, the post man has to obtain the endorsement of the receiver for the information of the postal authorities that he has recovered the surcharge on an unstamped letter. I understand that kanganyes and coolies sometimes send Ceylon Currency Notes enclosed in envelope, which can be discounted in towns. This system should be discontinued.

I am Sir,
Yours, &c.,
(Signed) H. SCOBLE NICHOLSON,
Ceylon Labour Commissioner.

BEEF SUPPLY.

The following letter from the Chairman, Local Board, Kegalle, re Beef Supply, was read:—

23rd October, 1912.

THE HON. SECRETARY,
Kegalle, P.A.

Sir,
With reference to your letter of the 15th instant, I have the honour to inform you that there were at the time of your last meeting, two beef butchers in the town, I called for tenders and received one application, and a license has been issued. One of the original two butchers has left the town recently. There is hardly enough sale to enable more than two butchers to carry on the trade.

I am Sir,
Yours, &c.,
(Signed) H. W. CODRINGTON,
Chairman.

Proposed by Mr. Sinclair, and seconded by the Chairman, that the Chairman, Local Board, be again written to and pointed out the unsatisfactory nature of the present beef supply and ask that something further be done in the matter.—Carried unanimously.

COCA.

The letter from Government Agent, Central Province, re cultivation of coca without license, which has already appeared, was read.

KEGALLE HOSPITAL.

Read letter from P.C.M.O. re appointment of a qualified medical assistant to Kegalle Hospital.

Colombo, 18th October, 1912.

THE HON. SECRETARY,
Kegalle Planters' Association.

Sir,
I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 15th instant, and to inform you that I have already made application to Government for authority to include in my estimates for 1913-14 provision for a District Medical Assistant at Kegalle.

I am Sir,
Yours, &c.,
(Signed) G. J. RUTHERFORD,
for P.C.M.O. and I.G.H.

UNDUGODA ROAD.

It was resolved that the D.P.W. be again written to and call attention to the necessity of having this matter early attended to and either to have the gala removed to a more suitable site or a new road cut through the bend. It was also suggested that his attention be called to the letter re the dangerous corner at the 37½ mile post on the Colombo-Kegalle road, and also to ask that the corner near Ambanpitiya factory be benched back.

Letters *re* Liquid Fuel Drums and Canker in Rubber were laid on the table.

ROADS AND RESTHOUSES.

A notice *re* the election of a member to the District Road Committee was read. It was proposed and carried unanimously that the name of Mr. Wilkins be submitted to the Chairman, D.R.C., for election.

Mr. SINCLAIR called attention to the leakages in the roof of the Ambepussa resthouse, and suggested that Government be approached on the question.

Mr. BAYLEY proposed that the D.R.C. be asked to gravel the wheel tracks of the approach road to the Mawanella resthouse. The road is overgrown with grass and motors are unable to get to the resthouse owing to the wheels slipping on the grass.

These proposals were unanimously supported.

THE RAILWAY.

The CHAIRMAN said that it seemed an extraordinary oversight on the part of the General Manager of the Railway that a crane capable of unloading heavy goods had not been supplied at Polgahawella Station. Most of the small stations on the line had cranes, but an important station like Polgahawella, and a junction too, had no such appliance. As estates came into bearing there would be a lot of heavy machinery consigned to that station. He would propose that the General Manager of the Railway be asked to provide a crane at Polgahawella station capable of lifting weights up to five tons at least.—Carried unanimously.

ANNUAL REPORT.

The Annual Report was read as follows:—

Your Committee have pleasure in submitting the 9th Annual Report of the Kegalle Planters' Association.

MEMBERSHIP.—At the end of the year there were 38 estate names on the register, and one private vote against 32 estate names and one private vote in 1911.

OBITUARY.—We regret to record the death of Mr. Alex. Wardrop, for so many years Secretary of the Planters' Association of Ceylon.

MEETINGS.—There were four Committee and four general meetings which were all well attended.

FINANCES.—These are in a satisfactory condition. There is a balance of Rs. 125.88 to the credit of the Association to be carried forward to 1913.

TEA.—The season has been a favourable one for tea, and estimated crops in most cases have been obtained. About 600 acres have been opened up in tea during the year on the older estates interplanted with rubber. Owing to the shade from the trees, estimates for 1912 were considerably reduced and will be still further reduced in 1913. The tea in these areas eventually will become unproductive and must be cut out. Diseases have given no trouble and shot-hole borer exists to a very small extent on a few estates only.

RUBBER.—The climatic conditions for the growth of young rubber have been favourable in most parts of the district. Extensions have been on a very small scale in comparison with former years. Estimated yields for 1912 showed a considerable increase on those of 1911, and in most cases were realized, but the heavy and constant rainfall in some parts of the district interfered with the collecting of latex and in consequence yield in those parts were diminished.

DISEASE.—A few isolated cases of disease were reported. The district may be said to be a very healthy one for the growth of this product.

THEFTS OF RUBBER are considerably on the increase, and are becoming increasingly alarming owing to the difficulty of obtaining convictions. It is suggested that when convictions are obtained maximum penalties should be imposed.

LABOUR.—Your Committee regret that little if anything has been done during the year to improve the indebtedness and consequent inefficiency of the Tamil Cooly. Advances steadily increase and the condition of the labour force is becoming still more unsatisfactory. There is urgent need of some drastic change.

With the assistance of the Sinhalese who are turning out to work much better than heretofore the Kegalle District has had a sufficiency of labour. Coolies have come in well from the Coast, and, with the help of our Local Federation and the keeping of coolies' accounts by Superintendents, the labour has been more settled.

HEALTH.—The health of the district has been very good.

ROADS.—The conditions of the main roads in spite of the constant rains has been satisfactory, and the D. E. deserves your best thanks. The minor roads in some cases received much better attention than previously, but in others have been sadly neglected. The amount of money expended on these roads fell far short of the requirements. The cart transport on them is becoming increasingly heavy and urgent repairs are most necessary to maintain them in a passable condition. In the case of the Morontotte-Aranderu road begun in 1909, one mile only of the 5 miles undertaken has been completed to date. Without Government assistance this important connecting road cannot be completed for very many years.

TELEGRAPHS AND TELEPHONES.—During the year we have had a Telegraph office established at Undugoda, which has proved a great convenience to the general public, but the district is still far behind the times in the matter of telephones.

HOSPITALS.—Much correspondence has taken place with reference to the appointment of a qualified assistant medical officer to Kegalle Hospital. As long ago as February, 1904, correspondence in this connection with the P. C. M. O. first started and has been going on steadily since. The P. C. M. O. now informs us that he has made application to Government to include in the estimates for 1913-14 (provision for a qualified medical assistant at Kegalle), and it is hoped it will be passed. Your thanks are due to the P. C. M. O. for his efforts in this respect. The work on the Yataderiya Hospital is progressing satisfactorily.

BENEVOLENT FUND.—This Fund has been well supported by estates and Superintendents. The Nursing Association has not been well supported, and we strongly recommend it to your favourable consideration.

THE CHAIRMAN'S REVIEW.

THE CHAIRMAN, addressing the meeting, said he had not much to add to the report. The year had been a most successful one, and if owing to the wet weather such large crops were not obtained as might have been, the health of the district was exceptionally good. It was a great contrast to that of 1912 (?1911), which was a dry year. Cart transport had been a serious problem owing to the prevalence of hoof and mouth disease and of rinderpest. He thought it was time that some other mode of transport superseded this ante-diluvian method. He had not been able to go into figures as estimated crops for 1913 had not been sent in by all Superintendents to the Secretary. He hoped all would send in these figures immediately, and also the distance of the estate from the nearest Railway Station, and the name of station. When that had been done a sub-Committee might be appointed to go into the question of transport. The meetings during the year had been well attended, and he thanked all the members for their support which had made his duties a pleasure.

Mr. SMALE having thanked the Hon. Secretary for the work he had done, vacated the Chair.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

Mr. BARRS was voted to the chair temporarily. He proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the retiring Chairman and Hon. Secretary for the good work done during the

year, and said he had much pleasure in proposing that Mr. Smale do again take the chair, which was seconded by Mr. WILKINS and carried unanimously.

Mr. SMALE on resuming the chair thanked them all for the honour accorded him, and said he would be pleased to do his very best, and hoped they would all give him the same support as they did last year.

Mr. J. R. Thistle was re-elected Hon. Secretary, proposed by Mr. BARRS and seconded by Mr. WILKINS, and the following other appointments were made.

GENERAL COMMITTEE.—The following were appointed:—Messrs. A. A. Franklin, A. E. Barrs, C. Hall Hall, Wilkins, P. F. Ondaatje, H. Tupper, J. I. Jamieson, and G. Harris.

HOSPITAL VISITORS.—Messrs J. G. Craib, and Wilkins.

BENEVOLENT FUND.—Chairman and Mr. Wilkins.

PLANT PESTS BOARD.—Mr. Wilkins.

DISTRICT ROAD COMMITTEE.—Mr. Wilkins.

KANDY COMMITTEE.—Mr. Wilkins, Chairman, and the Hon. Secretary.

AUDITOR.—Mr. J. I. Jamieson.

There being no other business, the meeting terminated with a vote of thanks to the Chairman.

(Signed) J. R. THISTLE,
Hon. Secretary.

KOTMALIE PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

Minutes of the 9th annual general meeting of the Kotmalie Planters' Association, held on the 23rd January, at 2-30 p.m. at the Kotmalie Sports Club Pavilion. Present:—Mr. J. S. Richardson (Chairman), Messrs. J. W. Bennett, R. M. Kelly, J. Murray Brown, H. Langrishe, H. Patterson, A. Kennedy, and M. S. Milne (Hon. Secretary.)

Letters from Messrs. F. S. Elson and A. J. Austin Dickson regretting inability to attend the meeting were read. Notice calling the meeting was read. Minutes of meeting held on the 7th November, 1912, were confirmed.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Read correspondence re liquid fuel drums, coca cultivation, district aerial ropeway.

It was decided to print the correspondence on this subject and circulate it among members who were asked to lay this matter before their Agents or Proprietors.

ANNUAL REPORT, ETC.

Annual report and Hospital and Dispensary visitors reports were read as follows:—

ANNUAL REPORT.

Your Committee have pleasure in submitting the 9th Annual Report of the Kotmalie Planters' Association for the year ending 31st December, 1912.

MEMBERSHIP.—The Association is represented by 17 estate votes, the same number as last year, while the private vote has been added to the register.

ATTENDANCE.—In accordance with the new rules of the Association four general meetings have been held during the year, and it is satisfactory to note the continued interest of members evinced by the excellent attendance at meetings. With a membership roll of 18 the average attendance has been 13 members.

WEATHER.—The year under review has been an unusually wet one. Actual rainfall figures are about normal, but the monsoon rains have been prolonged far beyond the usual limits.

CROPS.—The yield of tea which is practically the only product in the district has not been quite up to the average.

TEA PRICES in sympathy with the general decline of the market have ruled about 1½ cents lower than in the preceding year.

PESTS.—It is with satisfaction that your Committee reports that shot-hole borer which at one time was very prevalent has considerably decreased, while attacks of Tortrix and Helopeltis have been very slight indeed.

WEEDS.—The season has been unfavourable for clean weeding. It is to be regretted that Oxalis is gradually covering a larger area of the district every year, and that practically nothing is being done to prevent its spread.

LABOUR.—Although advances show a further increase labour conditions generally are better than they were at this date last year. One more estate in the district has joined the Proprietors' Labour Federation.

HEALTH.—The year under review has been a healthy one, and this, together with the closer attention now being given to coolies' comforts on estates, has resulted in a reduced death rate.

MEDICAL.—Your Committee are indebted to the Hospital and Dispensary Visitors for their reports which are appended, and for their attention to the interests of the district in this connection. The vigorous agitation instigated by this Association for increased accommodation at the Nawalapitiya Hospital resulted satisfactorily, but it is to be regretted that no progress has been made with the erection of the new wards.

TUBERCULOSIS.—The alteration to the rules governing the slaughter of cattle is having the attention of our Member in Council.

TRANSPORT.—As a result of the efforts of this Association carting has been satisfactory.

RINDERPEST AND FOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASES have both been felt, but fortunately not to any serious extent.

ROADS AND BRIDGES.—The main cart road through the district has been kept in good order, but the numerous blind corners still remain a danger to the travelling public. It is gratifying to report that after several years of agitation, the new bridge at Bowhill is an accomplished fact.

DISTRICT ROADS are in as good condition as the meagre grants allowed will permit, but as their condition is gradually getting worse every year, efforts should be made to obtain more money from the D. R. C.

POST AND TELEGRAPHS have been carried on in a satisfactory manner.

TELEPHONES.—Little progress has been made with the proposed district installation, but a sub-Committee now has the matter in hand and the scheme will probably be completed during the coming year.

PLANTERS' BENEVOLENT FUND has received slightly increased support from this district, but there is still room for further improvement in this direction.

The S. P. C. A. continues its vigorous campaign.

STRAY CATTLE on cart roads show no signs of decreasing, although frequent reports have been sent into the Government Agent through the Secretary of the Automobile Club.

VOLUNTEERING shows a further regrettable decline.

FINANCE.—The accounts, which have been duly audited, show the balance at the credit of the Association to be Rs. 203-62 compared with Rs. 189-21 at the corresponding date last year.

OBITUARY.—It is with deep regret that your Committee has to record since the last report, the death of Mr. H. Johnson, of Gangan Oya.

(Signed) J. S. RICHARDSON,
Chairman.

DISPENSARY VISITOR'S REPORT.

Oonooagal Oya,
Kotmalie, November 29th, 1912.

THE HON. SECRETARY,
Kotmalie P.A.

Dear Sir,

We, the undersigned visitors to the Kotmalie dispensary, herewith beg to state that we have from time to time visited the dispensary and have found it always clean and tidy. No complaints have been brought to our notice. There has been no shortage in medicine and medical requirements. This year the outside verandah has been covered overhead from rain and sun, and the floor cemented, thus giving the staff more room to dress wounds. Mr. de Silva, who is in charge of the dispensary, is hard-working and energetic, and as far as we know has given every satisfaction to the European community in this district.

Yours faithfully,
(Signed) H. C. CHARMICHAEL,
" J. MURRAY BROWN.

Greenwood,
Nawalapitiya.

I have visited the Nawalapitiya hospital on behalf of the Kotmalie Planters' Association several times during 1912 and beg to report as follows:—

The long-standing complaint of insufficient accommodation which was vigorously taken up about a year ago continues to be seriously felt. There are 46 beds available, and the average number of inmates calculated monthly has never been below 57, and has been as high as 86-87. Plans and estimates have been passed, and the money has been voted for additional wards, but nothing further has been done. I understand that the blame now lies with the P. W. D., and if this is correct, the work should be given to some private contractor. A paying ward, a new bungalow for the D. M. O., and improved accommodation are matters which should be again taken up by this Association. The hospital buildings are in very fair order. The patients have always appeared to be contented and well cared for, which reflects creditably on Dr. Pieris and his staff, who labour under considerable disadvantages.

(Signed) M. S. MILNE,

Hospital Visitor.
December 31st, 1912.

MR. ELSON'S REPORT.

I visited the hospital twice during the year and found everything in a state of perfect organisation. I was particularly struck with the cleanliness of the kitchen and the excellence of the food served out to the patients. The stock of medicines seemed ample as also the medical and surgical appliances. There were no complaints from the patients who looked clean and well cared for. The crying want of this hospital is the want of further accommodation. The wards are lamentably overcrowded, and this condition is likely to be accentuated in the near future. Under Dr. Pieris' skilful management the evidence of overcrowding is less manifest than it would be in the hands of a less able man, but the evidence is there and will so remain until the extension which has been long since estimated for, is put in hand and completed.

(Signed) F. S. ELSON.

CHAIRMAN'S REVIEW.

In moving the adoption of the report the CHAIRMAN briefly reviewed the work of the Association during the past year. He thanked the members for their regular

attendance and all the office-bearers for the assistance they had rendered. On vacating the Chair, Mr. J. W. Bennett, was asked to fill it *pro tem*.

Mr. BENNETT paid a high tribute to the able way in which Mr. Richardson had filled the Chair, and said it was almost a calamity that he would not offer himself for re-election. Mr. Bennett also proposed a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. M. S. Milne for his efforts as Hon. Secretary. He proposed that Mr. A. J. Austin Dickson do take the Chair.

Mr. Kelly said that Mr. Dickson had asked him to say that he could not accept that honour.

It was resolved that Mr. Dickson be again approached, and in the event of a refusal that Mr. J. S. Richardson be appointed.

The following office-bearers were then elected:—

Hon. Secretary, Mr. Fred. S. Elson, proposed by Mr. J. S. RICHARDSON seconded by Mr. R. M. Kelly; Auditor, Mr. J. W. Bennett, proposed by Mr. KENNEDY seconded by Mr. M. S. MILNE; Committee: Messrs. J. W. Bennett, A. J. Austin Dickson, A. Kennedy, J. Murray Brown, and H. Patterson; Kandy Committee, Mr. J. W. Bennett and Mr. H. C. Carmichael; Hospital Visitors, Mr. F. S. Elson, and Mr. D. C. Mortimer; Dispensary Visitors, Mr. J. Murray Brown and Mr. H. C. Carmichael; Planters' Benevolent Fund.—Mr. J. W. Bennett. S. P. C. A.—Mr. G. Mitchell and Mr. Patterson.

ROADS.

The Hon. Secretary was requested to write to the District Engineer, Dimbula, and ask for rates for cutting back corners on the Nawalapitiya road if the work was done by estates; also to ask that proper warning be given when blasting was being carried out, and for the reason why the serious complaint by Mr. Kelly had not been replied to.

TELEPHONES.

Mr. J. S. RICHARDSON informed the meeting of certain rates and conditions upon which Government would instal telephones, and it was decided that members be circularized again giving the full details and requested to obtain definite replies from their agents and proprietors, so that the scheme could be put through or otherwise.

RENT OF PAVILION.

Mr. M. S. MILNE reminded members of their pledge to endeavour to obtain a substantial reduction in the rent paid for the use of the Club Pavilion when the matter came before the Sports Club meeting.

With a vote of thanks to Mr. Bennett for having filled the chair with so much acceptance the meeting terminated.—*Nawalapitiya Cor.* January 31st.

